Aloha mai kakou,

The 54th Annual Convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs was held on November 10-17, 2013 at the beautiful J. W. Marriott Hotel on Kaua‘i. Over 400 were in attendance. There were 77 resolutions reviewed in Committee and voted on at the Plenary Sessions. One of the great highlights of the Convention was having about 25 residents of Niihau join us. They sang and it was “chicken skin” to hear and see so many of them.

Congratulations to our own Anna Dugan who was the recipient of the Kukui Lama Ku Award for Na Lei Makalapua (Mainland Council). It was my honor and pleasure to accompany Anna to receive the award. See articles on the Convention in this newsletter and also hear the reports which will be given at the General Membership Meetings in the next couple of months. We also visited Lunalilo Home in Honolulu. We brought mele and hula to the residents, some of whom joined us by singing and dancing along. It is always a special time for us to visit the kupuna there.

The December General Membership Meeting is on Sunday, December 1st at 2:00 pm at F&M Bank in Seal Beach. We will be having nominations and elections for new officers, directors and one Na Lei Makalapua representative for the 2014-2015 term. Come and support the nominees.

Come help us spread Holiday Aloha at our Christmas performances scheduled for Monday, December 9th at St. Francis Senior Home and Monday, December 16th at Catered Manor. Please contact Aunty Ulu Cortez at (714) 801-3845 if you have any questions.

Join us on Sunday, December 15th for our annual Christmas Party. Please see attached flyer for potluck information and to sign up for your keiki stockings………guess who’s coming to town???????? Contact Edye Hill at (714) 865-0235 if you have any questions or need additional information.

We have had a very good year. We’ve worked hard but played hard and had a lot of fun too. Our many meetings, festivals, retreats, workshops, movie nights, Ho’olaule’a, Aha’aina, hula and music practices, spring and winter performances are only part of what we’ve done this year. Mahalo for your kokua in supporting all of our many activities. In lokahi with many hands, we can do great things.

Mele Kalikimaka me ka Hau’oli Makahiki Hou from my `ohana to yours.
Me ke aloha, Charlene Pelekikena

Aloha AOKHCC Ohana,

Christmas is just around the corner and I hope to see you all at the Christmas Party on Sunday, December 15, 2013. As usual, we will have a big pot luck meal, songs, games, and visit from Santa. If you have any keiki that are 12 years old and younger, please fill out and return to me a Christmas Stocking form by December 7, 2013. You could also e-mail me the following information for a stocking: (1) member’s name, (2) child’s name, (3) child’s age, and (4) child’s gender to edyehill@yahoo.com by December 7, 2013.

I am so looking forward to dancing with some of our members and sharing the Aloha spirit in our community. We will be dancing, singing and playing some great music on December 9th at St. Francis Senior Home in Santa Ana and on December 16th at Catered Manor in Long Beach. Come and join in the fun.

See you at the Christmas party!
Malama pono, Edye Hill
Hope Pelekikena ‘Ekahi
Aloha mai —

I would like to express a BIG heartfelt MAHALO NUI LOA, to all those who contributed to making the holiday bake sale a success. From the many bakers; to the treasurer; to the booth helpers for set up, tear-down, and smiling service all day long; to the Saturday price and prep team mahalo for all your help! And to Linda McElrea for once again accepting to chair and coordinating this event. I admire your stamina and endurance for this event then going on to baptize your newest grandson that same day and then on to host thanksgiving dinner for family and friends totaling 40+! Mahalo nui!

2013 has been a good year for AOKHCC on many different levels and this would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of its members. `Āinahau is one of the busiest clubs in the association with its array of activities I just assumed was normal and all clubs operate in this manner. It wasn’t until I had the opportunity to meet other clubs at various functions (and mainland council meetings) that I learned, to my surprise that many other clubs only meet every other month or just quarterly. How lucky are we to have so much to choose from and so many different ways to participate. There is something for everyone!

As the holiday momentum continues to build, please know that each and every one of you are appreciated for your participation and your contributions in keeping AOKHCC alive and thriving.

MAHALO NUI LOA for all that you do!!

A hui hou,
Ualani

Aloha All,

You will love this issue—lots to share—inspirational and informative!! Great insights regarding 54th Annual Convention with pictures. Mahalo to all of the contributors! Please let me know if you would like to do a Member Profile—I think with my gentle “prodding” we have come up with some very interesting ones so far and I’m sure there are more of you out there we would love to hear from!!!

Hope you enjoy my new little “Membership Happenings” section. Mahalo to Julie Pualani Chang for sharing. We have many talented members and with many accomplishments! Please don’t hesitate to contribute about yourselves, ohana and events. Membership Update will be back once we have new member to share and Kaukau Korner too when space allows. I also added random pictures from Tissue Donor Event—amazing organizing of this worthwhile event.

Unfortunately, a couple of the articles not included in this issue will be shared at a later time regarding the successful Bake Sale from Linda and possible other reflections about convention and pictures.

54th Annual Convention November 10 - 17, 2013 Kaua`i Marriott Resort on Kalapaki Beach Kaua`i Island, Hawai`i
Theme: ‘O Ka Mau-li Ka Mea E Ola Ai Kānaka
The Spirit Is What Causes Man To Thrive
November Diabetes Awareness Month: Gotta Have Heart - Malama Pu‘uwai Nui is for Islanders with diabetes, is a culturally tailored heart education program with a focus on heart failure. Participants receive four heart health education modules. This 4-part series of classes is sponsored by PIHP in partnership with the Ulu Network, University of Hawai‘i, School of Medicine, Center for Native and Pacific Health Disparities Research.

Must Pre-Register for Classes on:
Class #1 – Symptoms, January 11, 2014, 9am – 1 pm
Class #2 – Medication, February 15, 2014, 9am – 1pm
Class #3 - Low Sodium Diet, March 15, 2014, 9am – 1pm
Class #4 - Physical Activity & Emotions, April 19, 2014. 9am – 1pm

Learn About:
A1c and Cholesterol levels
Levels with blood pressure & weight, taken at first and last class
Diabetes and heart failure
Learn the symptoms and what to do about it
Medicines for diabetes, improve your heart function, control your blood pressure, and reduce swelling [fluid retention]
Bring all your medicines to Class #2
Island style healthy heart eating [low salt recipes]
Snacks and sample meals
Activity & emotions with heart failure
Applications available at next General Meeting, December 1, 2013

Covered California, Affordable Care Act (ACA) or ObamaCare: Charlene Kazner and Ualani Ho’opai are receiving training as Certified Enrollment Counselors (CSC). They will be available for questions and enrollment information beginning January 2014. Mahalo nui loa to these two dedicated Native Hawaiians committed to inform and enroll all uninsured Hawaiians. Please register your friends and ‘ohana members interested in Covered California, California’s state program for the insured. More details and information available at next December’s General Meeting.

PILI ‘OHANA: ILI [Partnership for Improving Lifestyle Intervention] Lifestyle Program: Making Healthy ‘ONO: Preview of 2014 Spring Training at PIHP: Partners in CARE is an educational program designed to meet the needs and interests of adults living with Type 2 Diabetes. The program is a culturally adapted intervention to improve diabetes outcomes, focusing on ways to control blood sugar and live healthy with diabetes. Train the Trainer program is scheduled for spring 2014 at PIHP in Santa Ana. After two years partnering with Hawai‘i Maoli, Assn. of HCC in throughout Hawai‘i, Kula no nā Po‘e Hawai‘i [Papakōlea group], Ke Ola Mamo, Kōkua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services, Dept. of Native Hawaiian Health, John A Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM), PILI ‘Ohana is prepared to introduce and train the Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander communities across the Pacific: to provide information that aids and guides individual and community efforts to improve overall health and wellbeing through weight loss and weight loss maintenance.

Here are some simple ways you and your `ohana can eat better:
You can eat less fat by…
- Eating high fat foods less often
- Eating small amounts of high fat foods
- Eating lower fat foods instead
- Preparing foods at home in less fattening ways
- Finding hidden fats in foods your ear
- Buy lean cuts of meat, trim off the fat, remove the skin
- Drain off fat after cooking
- Flavor meats with low fat seasoning
- Avoid flying, stir-fry instead, grill…
You can use the 3Rs to …
- Eat at the right time
- Eat 2 regularly spaced meals per day
- Avoid skipping meals
- Eat your meals at about time same time each day
- Eat the right amount – use the plate method:
  ★ Half of your plate should be foods from vegetables group
  ★ ¼ of your plate should be made up of starches
  ★ ¼ of your plate should be made up of proteins (all you need is 6 ounces each day)
  ★ You can add one serving of fruits and diary product to each meal

Make Healthy ‘ONO!

See attached to e-mail Information flyer and Registration Application!!
Aloha. This is Michael Keoni DeFranco and it was my honor to attend my first Civic Club Convention this year. Following in the footsteps of my great grandmother, Earline McGuire, who was a member of the Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu and the Molokai Civic Club, I was recruited into 'Ainahau O Kaleponi by my Aunty Jane and Uncle Victor Pang.

My experience at the Civic Club Convention was life changing. It really was! I started my week off by attending an "Intro to the Legislative Process" class and was immersed in learning how the convention operates all week. I learned how Prince Kuhio joined the US Congress following the overthrow of the Kingdom and started the initial Civic Club as a forum to teach the proper parliamentary process to Hawaiians. It was an honor to continue the tradition. From the moment the initial pu was blown until the closing dinner, I felt the mana growing in the room as we debated issues ranging from shipping rights to GMO to native rights. I sat on two committees and was impressed by how smoothly the process went all week. I met incredible people and was inspired to continue my kuleana from New York City. I have my homework cut out for me and have a goal of presenting a piece of legislation to the floor within two years. I hope you will all hold me to this now :) Mahalo nui loa to all the kind members of 'Ainahau who treated me like 'ohana all week and showed me the ropes. Mahalo to our great president Aunty Charlene, who placed me to her left-hand side and kept me in the loop all week. I was so proud of our Kanaka Maoli population for the great respect we have given our kupuna.

The Civic Clubs are a long term strategy towards a brighter future for our islands and our keiki. I am proud, honored and humbled by my experience and want to thank 'Ainahau O Kaleponi Hawaiian Civic Club for inviting me to attend. Mahalo nui loa, aloha pumehana, Keoni
Membership Profile by Anna Dugan

The Kauai Marriott in Lihue was probably the most beautiful Convention site in my 15+ years of attendance. The grounds were lush, the pool was beyond description, and the white sand beach was so inviting! It was also very spread out, making the trek from our hotel room to the meetings, at least a 10 minute walk! Like everyone said, “We are all getting our exercise this week!”

There were many highlights during the week, but what impressed me the most was the number of “young” people at Convention. For someone my age, anyone under 60 is young, but I’m talking about kids who could be my grandchildren! Even our own Keoni Michael DeFranco, whom I met for the first time, is younger than some of my grandkids. He was a dedicated, interested first-timer, and I’m hoping that he will sometime be able to join us here in Kaleponi! These young Hawaiians not only attended, but many took on leadership roles. In fact, most of the committee meetings were led by the under 50 group. My Education Committee was led by newcomer Judy Oliveira, whom I later found out knew my daughter from working at the UH. She was probably in her late 30’s and already had her PhD! It’s wonderful to see that the future of the Hawaiian Civic Clubs is in capable hands to lead us through the 21st century!

One of the resolutions dealt with protecting the ocean around Ni’ihau, and many of the residents, including the wife of the owner, attended our sessions. Their singing of a Hawaiian hymn brought many of us to tears. (Their many beautiful Ni’ihau shell lei also made me want to cry tears of jealousy!!) For me, having them there in numbers—25 made me realize what a vibrant community lives on Ni’ihau, and how much they contribute to preserving our culture.

Mahalo to ‘Ainahau for allowing me the privilege of attending again this year, and a special mahalo for the generous stipend to help me be able to afford it! I encourage those who have never attended, and want to see first hand what the Civic Club is all about, to take the time to try it.

Next year: Waikoloa Beach Marriott, Kona, Hawaii!!

Aloha, Paddy

Reflections of Convention, 2013

Paddy Kakihara

Aloha ‘Āinahau Members:

Maggie asked me to share a member profile so here goes: Reflecting back about the road I’ve traveled with ‘Āinahau, it all started about 15 years ago after I spent a month in Kauai and playing our ukuleles while at the Koloa Center Center. You might say “The Ukulele Did it “. My friend Jack Godfrey and I decided we wanted to learn to sing/play like the Hawaiians. Aīnahau, with their choir, was mentioned and with that we were off and running. Jamieson Judd, who had a ukulele group, and Joseph Rodrigues took us under their wings and that was all it took.

The wonderful friendships, good times and adventures was more than one could ask for. Jack died in 2001, after coming home from Convention in Honolulu and the love and support extended by Aīnahau was beyond belief. Ukulele playing, singing and dancing was a real shock to the mortuary, but loved by his surprised family.

Now at age 86 this month (November 26), I look back at all Aīnahau has given me and feel so blessed to have been a part of the group and thank everyone for all the knowledge and love they have sent my way. I think this could be titled “The Ukulele Did It “. When I think of the eight civic club conventions I’ve attended, the many hours of work/fun we all took part of, I feel so blessed and grateful. . . . and all because of a little ukulele.

Reflecting further back and prior to those Aīnahau years, I raised two children. Kent, my son, was killed at the age of 24 by a hit and run. Jill, my daughter, has been a teacher at CSI College in Twin Falls, Idaho for many years, retiring this past July. I have four grandchildren and 6 great grand children... 4 in Boise and 2 in Dallas. I feel very blessed.

I will be journeying to another convention in November to Kauai with my daughter, Jill as of the writing of this article. As many of you know, I have been legally blind for sometime but I forge on. Enjoy once a week classes at the Braille Center where Charlene teaches Hawaiian culture and participating in various ukulele programs.

I graduated from Hollywood High School and attended UCLA for two years before getting married. After raising my children I became a travel agent, then managed a travel office for Peter Uebberoth’s and got to travel all over the world. What a great life!!
Convention Highlights – 2013
By Charlene Kazner

As I landed in Kaua`i for the 54th Annual Convention of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, I wondered if the island had changed much since my last visit in 2008. I didn’t remember too much from my former trip, but I knew that it hadn’t changed much….and I hope it never does. The Convention was held at the beautiful J. W. Marriott Hotel in Lihue, not far from the airport. The hotel is spacious with beautiful gardens and the most interesting pool which could fit hundreds of people. The walk from our rooms to the meeting rooms was over 1,500 steps, so we all got a lot of exercise throughout the week.

More than 400 attended the Convention this year. There were 77 Resolutions reviewed in committee and voted on in the Plenary Sessions. ‘Āinahau co-sponsored two resolutions which both passed in Plenary. Mahalo to Jane and Victor Pang for their coordination on both resolutions. Come to the General Membership Meetings in the next few months to hear the report on the resolutions and other highlights from the members who attended.

Nainoa Thompson, the first guest speaker set the tone for the Convention by presenting the history of the Hokulea from the beginning in 1976 to the current four-year journey which will take them around the world. He spoke of Mau Pialig the Master Navigator and his impact on navigation. He shared Eddie Aikau’s amazing accomplishments in his short life and his legacy around the world. At the ‘Aha aina on Saturday night, we saw the documentary of Eddie’s life…….Eddie Would Go!

One of the highlights of the Convention was having about 25 guests from Niihau. Senator Clayton Hee introduced them in `olelo Hawaii. That was quite impressive. It was awesome having so many join us from Niihau. They sang in Hawaiian and remained with us throughout the week. They came in support of a resolution to “Urge the Hawai`i State Government policy makers to impose measures of protection necessary for the natural and cultural resources of Niihau.” The resolution passed in Plenary.

‘Āinahau member, Anna Dugan received the Kukui Lama Ku Award, which honors one kupuna from each of the four Councils of the Association. I was honored and proud to accompany Anna to receive the award. Congratulations Anna. Anna’s daughter, Jill Chestnut joined us for the Convention and was able to see her Mom accept the award.

The ‘Aha Mele was held on Friday evening and for the past three years has been a group sing along led by Aaron Mahi from Manu Boyd, Carol Johnson (from Kauwahi Anaina HCC in Utah) and others, instead of the song contest which was done in years past. Marlene Sai was a guest singer this year, and for those of us who grew up with her music, it was a special treat.

For many years, we have visited Lunalilo Home the Monday after Convention. We were happy to continue the tradition this year. Fifteen of us sang and danced for the kupuna there. We were glad to have Carol and Alikia Johnson from Utah join us. BJ and Joe Rodrigues also joined us and they both look great.

Living in Hawai`i really agrees with them. They live in Ewa Beach in a big, big house with so many rooms. Although it’s hot on that side of the island, they’re house was very comfortable when I visited them. They planted two gardens in their yard with different vegetables and papaya trees. There was one papaya on the tree almost ripe and ready to eat. From small kid time, I remember picking papaya from our tree in the front yard and eating it for breakfast, that’s what I call fresh. I wonder if a papaya tree would grow here! Will have to check that out. Anyway, back to Lunalilo Home……some of the residents danced and sang along with us and that is always special. Mahalo to Eric Kakihara and Carol Johnson for leading the performance. We couldn’t have done it without them. Mahalo also to Jane Pang for the scarves and ma-kana we left for them. ‘Āinahau gave them a gift certificate to purchase art supplies, crafts and other items they requested. We left them promising to return next year.

Although attending the Convention is a lot of work, it is always great to see many friends, some we see only at Convention each year, and to hear what’s happening on the `aina. I meet new friends at each Convention and look forward to seeing them and others the following year. I hope more of our members will have the opportunity to attend next year’s Convention which will be held in Kona at the Marriott Waikoloa.

A hui hou, Charlene
**Hau’oli La Hanau**

**NOVEMBER**

- 4  TAMRAH KAZNER
- 7  NADINE APO
- 9  JOAN BURGESON
- 14 PADDY KAKIHARA
- 15 LAURA LEIALOHA MCEWAN
- 17 LANI GOTO
- 20 THOMAS KALAMA
- 24 MONA PARKER-WRIGHT
- 26 ANNA DUGAN

- 6  MAILE HILL
- 11 MAPUANA NEWCOMB
- 12 SHERRY RAMALIA
- 13 AGNES KAKIHARA
- 19 SCOTT GEHRING
- 28 SCOTT KAZNER
- 30 LANI RYAN
- 31 STEVE CULLEN

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**DATE:** December 1, 2013  
**TIME:** 2:00 P.M.  
**PLACE:** Farmers & Merchants, 12523 Seal Beach Blvd., Seal Beach, CA 90704

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**MEMBERSHIP HAPPENINGS**

**CORNER BY MAGS**

**Grandaughter of Paul Chang and daughter of Puanani Chang** is attending the University of Hawaii and is loving it—majoring in Psychology, Native Hawaiian Studies and Pre-law. She is very busy and is currently maintaining a 4.0. She is actively involved with the Native Hawaiian Student Center where she does beach clean up volunteer work. When she is not in school or at the beach she is working for Victoria's Secret in Waikiki. She was recently promoted to a lead. She is ridiculously happy and adjusted.

(Please share your “happenings” by e-mailing to mapg5@msn.com by December 26, 2013 for next newsletter. mapg5@msn.com)

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**All Pau Until January, 2013 on December Events**
Pictorial Reflections of Convention and Visit to Lunaliho by Kaala Pang

AOKHCC “Check in gathering” with other HCC members:
Wednesday, Nov. 13, pool side Charlene Kazner with Dr. Kapono Hassen-Chong, volunteer USC medical student, now primary care physician with the Kaua`i Ho`ola Lahui Hawai`i, Native Hawaiian Community Health Clinic, featured in MANA Magazine comments on “GMO and Health”
MCAHCC Raffle Table with John Jenson, Charlene, Aggie & Kaiwi; Kaiwi Pang presenting ho`okupu at Prince Kuhio Park Memorial, Founder of Hawaiian Civic Clubs Movement in 1918; Restoration of Ke Kahua o Kaneiolouma Heiau on Kaua`i pre-Convention Kaua`i historic site tours...

AOKHCC Serenades... Eric Kakihara thrills kupuna dancing Kaimanahila with impromptu hula with kupuna wahine.
Kupuna join AOKHCC and Orem Utah HCC member [Carol Johnson] in mele; HCCmembers left gifts of Komen Warrior scarfs for all, generous gift card, with a morning of mele – hula o Hawai`i
(Other Members include Gil Kveen, B J Rodrigues, Alex Johnson, Joseph Rodrigues, Agnes Kakihara and Carmen Ku’ulei Postrzech.)
I came to volunteer today not only for the girls and my family who have been affected by breast cancer but also for my three daughters. My hope is that by doing this I can make a difference in the lives of those who have been impacted by breast cancer. I want to spread hope and support to those who are going through the same experience as I and my family have.

I lost my mother to breast cancer in 2014 and it was a very difficult time for everyone. Despite the pain and uncertainty, we found strength and support in each other. I believe that every donation, no matter how small, can make a difference in the fight against breast cancer. Together, we can make a difference.
Officers:
Pelekikena, Charlene Kazner
Hope Pelekikena 'Ekahi, Edye Hill
Hope Pelekikena 'Elua, Ualani Ho'opai
Pu'u'uku, Eric Kakihara
Kakau 'Olelo Ho'opa'a, Jackie Judd
Kakau 'Olelo Ho'oholo, Maggie Perry
Sergeant at Arms, Gil Kveen
Immediate Past President, Analani Imbach

Address:
12534 Valley View Street, No. 343
Garden Grove, CA  92845

Website:  www.aokhcc.org

Year Chartered:  1982

Motto:
E Malama 'Ia Na Pono O Ka 'Aina E Na 'Opio
“The Culture of the Land is Preserved in its Youth”

Club Flower:  Pikake
Club Colors:  White, Peacock Blue, Seafoam Green

Club Song:  ‘Āinahau

Newsletter:  Kahakuhi O ‘Āinahau
Editor:  Maggie Perry (mapg5@msn.com)

Board of Directors:
Maile Hill
Maile Hubbard
Victor Pang
Gil Kveen
Lani Ryan
Ululani Cortez

Na Lei Makalapua Representatives:
Maile Hill and Jane Pang