Aloha E `Āinahau!

Well it’s finally starting to cool off, and we even got some rain here in Orange County! I guess it’s about time seeing that it’s already December, and as I mentioned last month, with the end of the year will also bring to end my tenure as Pelekikena. I continue to reflect on my term and where we were 4 years ago, where I was 4 years ago… but mostly it’s been me saying “hey, this will be the last Convention/Christmas Party/Board Meeting/etc. I will be Pelekikena for…” I will admit, that although it is true, I say it more tongue-in-cheek than anything else. I suppose anyone that does something for 4 years may need a break, but because it has been such an enjoyable time serving with all of you, I can’t imagine `Āinahau not being a part of my life. I am so excited to see how the incoming officers lead and where we all go together from here!

One thing that I have always said is that “all the Hawaiian culture that I have today, I have because of my involvement in `Āinahau.” Strangely related to that is my interest in the recent impeachment hearings that have been on TV lately. Coming off of convention in Maui last month, it may be strange, but what interests me the most about these hearings is the parliamentary procedures. “Chairman I would like to make a motion” “Chair recognizes___” “I move to ____” “I rule that motion to be out of order.” “I move to table that motion.” all these procedures that I wouldn’t have known, or quite frankly cared about, I now find myself engaged in, and even understanding. Not necessarily anything related to Aloha, but just one more way that I can say `Āinahau has enriched my life.

We still have a month to go, and a couple of performances, a couple of meetings and a Christmas Party to take us to the end of the year, and I look forward to seeing you all there. I invite you to continue reading this month’s newsletter to get the scoops! Mahalo and Aloha!

Eric Kupa`aokalehua Kakahara, Pelekikena

December - Kekemapa (key-key-ma-pa) 2019
Aloha `Āinahau `Ohana,  
Maui No Ka Oi……that’s for sure! And so it was at the 60th Annual Convention for the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at the Hyatt Regency in Lahaina, Maui where close to 400 were in attendance. I was born in Wailuku, Maui, raised on O`ahu, but spent many summers on Maui with my grandparents, aunties, uncles and cousins; so landing at Kahului, Maui Airport last month brought fond memories of my childhood. While on Maui, I was fortunate to visit `ohana I had not seen for over 30 years. That was very exciting for me.

Being at Convention each year takes me back to my roots where a feeling of Native Hawaiian pride overwhelms me. It’s a time to re-connect with old friends from other Hawaiian Civic Clubs, meet new ones and hear the commendations and issues of the Hawaiians, not only in the state of Hawaii, but also Hawaiians throughout the nation. Although we are thousands of miles away, we are still very interested and care about what’s happening in the islands. The Convention helps keep us informed and connected. I am very happy that our corresponding secretary, Maggie was able to join us for the first time to experience the protocols and processes of the Convention. She not only participated in the many meetings and events but also helped in the Health Assessment Room and recorded the minutes of the Health Committee Meeting chaired by Aunty Jane Pang, in addition to taking pictures. Way to go, MAGS.

There were 67 Resolutions reviewed, discussed and voted on this year. Stay tuned for Committee Reports that will give information on each one. Once again, the Health Assessment Room offered cholesterol and glucose screenings, blood pressure monitoring, oral health, a health survey (with a $10 Target gift card) and everyone’s favorite…..lomilomi. It was inspiring to see many Civic Club members interested in their well-being. There were numerous happenings at Convention and I’m sure the different articles in this newsletter will touch on many of them, I have mentioned only a few.

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The General Election of ‘Ānahau O Kaleponi Hawaiian Civic Club Board of Directors will be held on December 14th at our General Membership Meeting on December 14th at 2 pm at the Barber City Women’s Club, 14046 Rancho Road, Westminster. Final nominations will be accepted for all our open positions before the election.

\ Pelekikena (President) - Presides over General Membership and Board Meetings. Speaks for the club at the Association of Hawaiian Civic Club and Mainland Council meetings. Coordinates with the Board of Directors and offers assistance as needed. Must be of Ancestral Hawaiian descent.
Nominees so far: Pua Hao-Jarvis

Hope Pelekikena ‘Ekahi (First Vice President) Main duties include Membership and promoting the growth of the club. This person fills in when the Pelekikena cannot attend a meeting.
Nominees so far: Charlene Kazner

Hope Pelekikena ‘Elua (Second Vice President) This is our Ways and Means Head. He/she coordinates our festival participation and ‘Aha āina among other duties.
Nominees so far: Edye Hill

Pu‘uku (Treasurer) Maintains our accounts, writes checks, reports to the IRS on behalf of the club, heads the Budget Committee. Nominees so far: 0.

Kakau `Olelo Ho`opa`a (Recording Secretary) Keeps the Minutes of the General and Board Meetings. Historian. Librarian. Nominees so far: Sharon Abbott

Kakau `Olelo Ho`oholo (Corresponding Secretary) Newsletter. Maintains and responds to letters and communications received. Nominees so far: Lehua Swope

Directors. There are 6 Directors, three elected each year. They advise, take on projects, co-ordinate some of our activities, fulfil club obligations, and advise the Board of Directors. We will elect three Directors to replace Artland Ka’ai, Kehau Bryce (who are both eligible to be re-elected) and Gil Kveen. Other Nominees, please confirm with me that you are still interested in being on the board.
Nominees so far: Maggie Perry.

Na Lei Makalapua Representative: This is our representative to the Mainland Council. One is elected each year for a two-year term. Nominees so far: 0
Nominees must have been a member in good standing for at least one year and not served more than 4 consecutive years (two full terms) in that position. All terms are 2 years unless otherwise stated. Please refer to our Constitution for a description of the full duties of any office.
If you would like to nominate yourself or an AOKHCC member for any of the above positions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Lehua Swope. H: 562 726-1269. C: 562 480-8870. Hale: 3757 Cedar Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807. Email: Lehua3757@aol.com. Even if you think someone has been nominated for a position, please nominate them again.

The health of our club is determined by the continued good leadership that we have enjoyed for our many years of existence. Our President, Eric Kakihara has led us though four years of continued growth and stability with an active Board of Directors to help our many programs flourish! Please consider joining our merry band of hard workers. Mahalo Nui!
KŪ HIÒ! KŪ KĀNAKA! KŪ I KE ANA O NĀ KŪ PUNA
Stand with foresight as kānaka in the reflections of our ancestors. Ho'ommaikai ana congratulations to AOKHCC delegation for their long hours, research, discussions and diligent effort on behalf of AOKHCC membership addressing difficult and challenging resolutions: that included but not limited to:

Charter for new Oregon HCC: Ka ‘Aha Lāhui O ‘Ōlekonā HCC, Noelani Rivera, Pelekikena, many remember her as she coordinated nā ‘ōpio activities at UCI’s ‘Ohana Retreat. Worked tirelessly 6:30am – 7pm at Kōmike Mālama Ola health education and screening activities throughout Convention

Remembered member ‘Anake Ramona Newton Hao, Pua Jarvis’ Mom at Halia Aloha and in Resolution. Remembered Uncle August Olim and Aunty Barbara Murakami at Halia Aloha. Addressed CENSUS 2020 and its NHPI community impact, supported participation in 2020 Census, but defeated single racial ID Resolution

Supported ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i education efforts, inclusion of indigenous history in Hawai‘i’s DOE curriculum, and much more. All reports to be shared at upcoming AOKHCC General Meetings.

LUNALILO HALE VISIT: an annual visit to nā Kūpuna at Lunalilo Home and program for over forty seniors residents and Day program Kūpuna: visited with Anakala uncle Roy Benham, past president of the first continental HCC, Uncle of West O‘ahu Chancellor Maenette Benham, master Kumu Lei Hala practitioner, who for many years provided gardening upkeep of Lunalilo Hale with financial support from AOKHCC annual Christmas raffle for Lunalilo Hale.

NOTE: performance with MC Charlene Kazner, music by Eric Kakihara & Carol Johnson, AOKHCC singers; Pua Javis and her menehune dancers perform in front of the 55” TV screen using the cordless mike donated by 2018 AOKHCC Christmas raffle for Lunalilo Kūpuna Fund.

Remember to kōkua genously at the December 8th, 3pm-6pm Christmas Potluck at Harbor View Clubhouse, Huntington Beach. Santa will deliver Lunalilo Nā Kūpuna gifts early Christmas morning. Mahalo nui loa!

IT’S NOT TOO LATE FOR YOUR FLU SHOT:
For infants over 6 months, all with chronic illnesses and seniors are are RISK!

Check in with senior centers/clinics, FREE Flu Shots at Walgreens and CVS pharmacies. If YOU have any questions, check with you private doctor or nurse.

FLU SEASON – BE PROTECTED – GET YOUR FLU SHOT TODAY!

# # #
One of the highlights of our time in Hawai‘i is visiting nā kupuna at Lunalilo Home in Honolulu. It was wonderful to see a large ‘Āinahau contingent this year. We presented a fruit basket and sang and danced hula for the residents. Some of them sang along with us. Joe and BJ Rodrigues joined us at the Home and had lunch with us at Ala Moana Food Court. It’s always great to see them on our visits.

It is my hope that every member of ‘Āinahau will have the opportunity to attend a Convention. It is an impressive experience and I believe that once a member attends Convention, the depth and power of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs is truly felt and understood. Mahalo nui loa ‘Āinahau for your support and for the opportunity to represent you as a delegate.

A hui hou, Charlene Kazner

Alika & Carol Johnson Our Cherished Members from Salt Lake City

Amazing Special Speaker Kumu Earl Keawe (Google him)

Dr. Benton Keali‘i Pang does amazing things too (pictured with his committee). Per his Mom—Auntie Jane, in 1982 he was one of our club’s first scholarship recipients & also part of Na Opio Ukulele Class taught by our founder Anake Maryann Kalama. (Google him)
The 60th Annual Convention for the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs was held in Lahaina, Maui. True to its moniker, the “Valley Isle”, over the valleys and beautiful sandy beaches one could enjoy breathtaking sunrise and sunsets. Stunning natural beauty as well as our stay at the Hyatt again made me want to just stay put.

Plenary and committee meetings started on Wednesday and lasted until Friday. Wednesday was Hali’a Aloha for those who have passed from us in 2019 and was heartfelt and reverently celebratory. Opening ceremony with all clubs being presented, chanting, and ‘ōlelo brought back memories of our ancestors and protocol. Attending convention to experience even this small portion of our week’s work is something everyone should have the opportunity to enjoy. It makes one feel connected not only to others at convention, but also the soul and the pride in who we are and why we love the islands.

Fun times were spent exploring the Iao Needle, Kaanapali Beach, and driving around the island. Not to forget mentioning eating, talking, eating, and talking, talking and eating, from early morning till late at night and meeting old friends while making new acquaintances.

Committee meetings were inspiring and eye opening. So many resolutions involved the management of native land and the people who presently live and are affected everyday by the resulting changes to the land and the environment. Whether the change is from legislation, private enterprise, or lack thereof, resolutions submitted were discussed and debated by the delegation. In the coming month, I will submit my report on the two committees I represented.

Mahalo to each and every member for allowing me to represent our club at convention. In closing, my hope is that you will be encouraged and inspired to join us next year to experience the soul moving and FUN times I experienced. This event I have etched in the category of “memorable” and “worthwhile”. I welcome with open arms all who want would join us next year on the island of Hawaii, my hometown! A hui Hou, Kehau Bryce

Aloha kakou,
This month is all about our convention reports, our upcoming elections, giving thanks and celebrating a joyous season.
Please participate in our upcoming elections. If you think you might like to get more involved in club activities, think about running for a director position. It's a great way to learn more about how the club operates and is a fun office to hold.

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs convention was held on the beautiful island of Maui this year. It was a great time of reuniting with friends made over the years. We were able to spend time with Scott and Denny who remain loyal members of our club along with being active members of the Tennessee club.

‘Āinahau had the largest delegation for the Mainland Council and we were in the top five for all clubs represented. We can be very proud of our club and our efforts throughout the year. With Auntie Carol Johnson leading the Mainland Council choir, we performed a great medley of songs paying homage to the islands of Maui, Lanai, Molokai and Kahoolawe. We received a hearty round of applause and shouts of hana hou! I was told that the audience was singing along with us, always a good sign of approval.

At the final dinner of the convention, Association President Hailama Farden came to Āinahau’s table and told us that he was happy to see our large representation and from so far away. He said whenever he looked our way, we were always in our seats and paying attention, which he greatly appreciated.

Although we didn’t have much time for sight-seeing, some of us got to Lahaina to see the largest banyan tree in the islands, to I’ao Needle and Bailey House Museum, said to be on the most sacred ground on Maui. Charlene spent many summers there in her youth helping her grandfather maintain the museum.

Continued to Page 7
Calendar for Remainder of 2019

12/5 6:30 pm hula practice
Wintersburg
12/8 2:00 pm Christmas party - information e-mailed to all 12/1/19
12/9  6:45 pm Community Service for Christmas program at Catered Manor
12/13 11:30 am Kolohe Lunch LUXE in the Westminster Mall.
12/14 Board Meeting 10:30 a.m. Claim Jumper, 18050 Brookhurst , Fountain Valley—South East corner of Brookhurst and Talbert.
12/14 General Meeting 2:00 p.m. at Barber City Women’s Club, 14046 Rancho Road, Westminster
(See comments from Lehua and Gil in their articles about importance on upcoming General Meeting!!!)

Continuation of Sharon Abbott’s Reflections on Convention

There is such a feeling of aloha when at convention. Everyone is gathered with the singular purpose of making life better for the Hawaiian people and giving them the recognition, they deserve. It is always an honor to represent ‘Āinahau. I hope that each of you will be able to attend at least one convention to experience the pride of the Association and each club.

Now with Thanksgiving just past & Christmas just ahead, I hope that each of you will have a happy, healthy holiday season. We hope to see everyone at the Christmas party on the 8th and the meeting on the 14th. Mahalo nui loa to each and everyone of you for all your kokua in 2019. Mele Kalikimaka! See you in 2020, Sharon

Member Carol Johnson with Association President Hailama Farden
Below: Our group with Hailama at Final Dinner
(Google Hailama multi-talented)

Members Denny & Scott from Tennessee—Performing Duties at Convention for around 16 years as Sargent at Arms!!

Also refer to Website for all upcoming calendar dates: http://www.aokhcc.org
Aloha Kakou! The LAST Kolohe Lunch of the year and due to popular demand...we will return to LUXE—Westminster Mall:

DATE: December 13, 2019
TIME: 11:30 A.M.

Please notify me if attending!

The new year is almost here!!!

I would appreciate any suggestions for restaurants that you would like to try or even a favorite that you would like to share with us. Don't be bashful.

Thanks to my ‘ohana on Oahu, I brought several large Ziploc bags full of can pop tops back from my convention trip. I took two RONALD MCDONALD BOX-ES (FILLED WITH 22+ POUNDS) OF ALUMINUM TOPS ON NOVEMBER 26.

MAHALO TO ALL OF YOU THAT SAVE YOUR CAN TOPS FOR ME. THIS IS A WORTHY CHARITY THAT I HOPE WE WILL ALL CONTINUE. IT DOESN’T COST A THING, AND IT DOESN’T TAKE UP MUCH SPACE.

Contact Information:
H: 714 544-1093 C: 714 544-1000
gilkveen@gmail.com

REMEMBER
“NO VOTE, NO COMPLAIN”
Kokua and take part in the future management of ‘Āinahau’s operation by being active in da best Hawai‘ian Civic Club that exists anywhere!! Volunteer!!

Mahalo, Gil
Our Pelekikena
Eric—On stage as Treasurer for Mainland Council

Founder of Hawaiian Civic Clubs: Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaole
Eric, Charlene, Paddy, Pua & Sharon

Paddy & granddaughter Kealoha & with grandpa Tom

Our Pelekikena

Hard working Auntie Ka’ala sharing her knowledge and lots of material pictured here!!

Lono Kollars,
Pelekikena of Moreno Valley Civic Club & Hope Pelekikena Mua of Mainland Council
&Brittany Noelani Rivera Pelekikena for new Civic Club for Oregon

Kehau & Kevin
`Åinahau O Kaleponi Hawaiian Civic Club
Our 37th Year
(1982 - 2019)

Officers:

Pelekikena, Eric Kahiha
Hope Pelekikena 'Ekahi, Pua Hao-Jarvis
Hope Pelekikena 'Elua, Maile Hubbard
Pu'u'uku, Edye Hill
Kakau 'Olelo Ho'opaa'a, Sharon Abbott
Kakau 'Olelo Ho'oholo, Maggie Perry
Sergeant at Arms, Gil Kveen
Pelekikena Iho Nea, Immediate Past President, Charlene Kazner

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Website: www.aokhcc.org

Year Chartered: 1982

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

Board of Directors:

Artland Ka`ai
Kehau Bryce
Lehua Swope
Linda McElrea
Ualani Ho'opai
Gil Kveen
Jane Ka'alā Pang

Club Flower: Pikake

Club Colors: White, Peacock Blue, Seafoam Green

Club Song: ʻĀinahau

Newsletter: Kahakuhi O ʻĀinahau

Editor: Maggie Perry (mapg5@msn.com)