



**Maggie Perry**  
**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

Aloha LVHCC Members,

Excited to share all the past & upcoming happenings! What a wonderful busy quarter we have experienced!

Mahalo Nui to all of the contributors to this newsletter to include organizers of **Seventh Annual Makahiki Event**: Nicole and Stacen, along with participants. I must point out the creativeness by Doreen in the picture to the left above for our the Makahiki as candy makana holders for our guests. Also, mahalo nui to my “assistant editor” Pat Filbert! He’s always thorough & willing to kokua! The newsletter coverage includes: Message from Pelekikena, **amazing coverage by Koho Mua Pa’ahana Bissen of Mainland Council Event** and **so much more!** Special mahalo to our devoted & talented member **Hiro Kajiyama** whose talent making lei po’o were shared to Mainland Council Speakers & also as raffle gifts for Kanaka Naka Hekili MC Luau Raffle. He has also created various beautiful wood products on behalf of LVHCC. Hiro is also involved in many worthy causes such as McDonald House and also providing his expertise and **inspiration** to students at various high schools as a Master Carpenter.

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ncivicclub.net/](https://www.lasvegashawaiia.ncivicclub.net/)

### **LVHCC MEETINGS**

**Board: 2nd Tuesday of Every Month  
Virtual 7:00 PM**

**General Membership Meeting:  
3rd Wednesday of Every  
Month In Person & Virtual  
6:15 PM Pā’ina Potluck; 7:00 PM**

**Location: Meeting: Kanaka Hekili MC Gym  
5000 W. Oakey Blvd. D-21, Las Vegas  
Next Meeting: April 10, 2024**



## **LVHCC GUIDING VALUES:**

**Malama:** To care for our members, especially our kupuna.

**Ola Kino Maika'i:** To live healthy.

**Ho'ihii:** To respect the views of all.

**Kuleana:** To take responsibility.

**Ike:** To seek knowledge. To be informed.

**Na'au Pono:** To nurture a deep sense of justice as we seek to uplift the conditions of Native Hawaiians.

**Laulima:** To work in harmony, for many hands make the work easier.

## **OUR MISSION**

To promote and perpetuate the traditional values and cultural expertise of Native Hawaiians.

To promote educational projects for the benefit of any race (with the primary emphasis on the people of Hawaiian Ancestry or Hawaii born) and to assist in furthering their education with the aid of scholarships.

To unite members into one harmonious group, while working to promote good government.

To take an active interest in the civic, economic, social, health and moral welfare of the community and the people of Hawaiian ancestry.

To provide a forum for the free discussion of issues in the public interest and programs beneficial to the Hawaiian community.

To perpetuate the traditions, songs (mele) and chants (oli), culture, customs and Hawaiian language and to encourage their use.

**The "Aloha Spirit Law" Of Hawai'i**





## PELEKIKENA MESSAGE

BY KALANI HEU

**Aloha Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club Members,**

**As we conclude our first quarter of the year I would like to mahalo every member of our club for the hard work we have done. This tribe definitely needs its team in order to accomplish the vision and goal we have as a club. Our dedication to Hawaiian representation here on the continent has been no easy task. It takes all of us to come together as one and move this amazing club to reach its full potential. As they say “a rising tide lifts all boats”. We have made some adjustments and added some much needed members to different strategic places on our executive board and I’m very excited to see what our 2024 will bring.**

**As many of you have been hearing, we are ironing out the details for our new launch for Ho’olaule’a this year and we are excited to bring things back to Las Vegas!!! Stay tuned for details regarding dates and locations!!! As your Pelekikena, mahalo to everyone in our community whether you are Kanaka Maoli or from Hawaii and love our culture!! We love all of the support we get and I can’t wait to see what our new members and board will do this year.**

**A Hui Hou and Best Regards,  
Kalani Heu Pelekikena**





**Nicole-Rene Kuuleinani Petri**  
**Hope Pelekikena Mua**  
**(1st Vice President)**

Aloha mai kakou,

As we navigate through the first quarter of the year, I am honored to address you as the Hope Pelekikena Mua (1st Vice President). It is a privilege to serve alongside such dedicated individuals who are committed to making a positive impact in our community.

Reflecting on our journey thus far, I am inspired by the progress we have made and the lives we have touched. From providing essential resources to those in need to advocating for meaningful policy changes, and scholarships awarded. I believe that our collective efforts have truly made a difference. However, there is still much work to be done, and it is imperative that we continue to push forward with passion and determination.

My message to you is... **GET INVOLVED**. I would love to see our membership more involved. Whether it be coming to our general membership meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, volunteering on a komike (committee), volunteering to man a table at an event, contacting us with fresh new ideas, etc. I would love to meet each one of you and your 'Ohana. I invite you to a meeting, being a member is not necessary to come and meet us.

As we look to the future, with a full calendar for this year I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead. With your continued support and dedication, I am confident that we can achieve even a greater impact and create lasting change for the future generations.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude to each one of you for your unwavering commitment to our mission. Together, we have the power to transform lives and make our community a better place.

**MAHALO for your continued support.**

Sincerely,  
**Nicole-Rene Ku'uleinani Petri**  
**Hope Pelekikena Mua**





**DOREEN HALL VANN  
KĀKAU ŌLELO HO'OPA'A  
(SECRETARY)**

Aloha Mai Kakou

Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club or organized on July 1, 1989 and chartered by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Club on July 28, 1989. I am so excited to be celebrating 35 years of service to our Lahui and our community here in Las Vegas.

LVHCC continues to evolve and progress in our club, to improve on the way we conduct business and how we continue to support our membership and community here in Las Vegas. Our emphasis is to perpetuate all things Hawaiian. LVHCC has incorporated using our Ōlelo Hawai'i in our meetings, greetings and social media platform. In February to recognized and honored Mahina 'Ōlelo Hawaii, Hawaiian Language month, and attended a Papa Ōlelo Hawai'i class with Kumu Jonah Kahauola through our partnership with Zippy's. LVHCC also open and closed with an 'Oli that has been taught to us by our Kupuna.

We encourage our membership and community to learn this 'Oli and understand the true meaning of the words and the mana that comes with this chant. E hele mai to our monthly club meetings and learn 'Ōlelo Hawai'i with us.

Oli Aloha

**'Makaukau**

**Ae**

**Kahea**

**'Oli Aloha E**

**Aloha e**

**Aloha e nā akua**

**Aloha e nā 'aumakua**

**Aloha e nā ali'i o Hawai'i**

**Aloha e nā kupuna**

**Aloha e nā makua**

**Aloha e nā lehulehu**

**Aloha e, Aloha e, Aloha e**

**Group**

**Group**

**Greetings**

**Greetings deities**

**Greetings ancestors**

**Greetings to the Chiefs of Hawai'i**

**Greetings elders**

**Greetings adults**

**Greetings to the multitudes**

**Greetings**

'Oli Mahalo

**Makaukau**

**Group**

**Kahea**

**'Oli Mahalo E**

**Mahalo e**

**Mahalo e nā lehulehu**

**Mahalo e nā makua**

**Mahalo e nā kupuna**

**Mahalo e nā ali'i o Hawai'i**

**Mahalo e nā 'aumakua**

**Mahalo e nā akua**

**Mahalo e, Mahalo e, Mahalo e**

**'Ae**

**Group**

**Gratitude**

**Gratitude to the multitudes**

**Gratitude adults**

**Gratitude elders**

**Gratitude Chiefs of Hawai'i**

**Gratitude ancestors**

**Gratitude deities**

**Gratitude**

# **TRIBUTE TO MAINLAND COUNCIL AHCC PRESIDENT**

*Uwē ka lani, ola ka honua.  
When the sky weeps, the earth lives.  
‘Ōlelo No‘eau*

February 21, 2024

Aloha mai kākou,



I am deeply saddened to share with you the passing of Aunty Carol Johnson, our Pelekikena of the Mainland Council AHCC. Aunty Carol was our vibrant leader who kept us in the same wa‘a paddling toward the same goals. We will miss her aloha spirit and the love she had for our ‘āina and our people. Her voice to do the best for the Hawaiians no matter where we live will inspire and motivate us to continue her vision to work in lōkahi with all our Clubs, all Councils, and the Association on perpetuating our culture and traditions.

A life so beautifully lived deserves to be beautifully remembered. May fond memories of Aunty Carol comfort all of us.  
Rest in Aloha, Aunty Carol.

Me ke aloha, Marlene Livesay  
Hope Pelekikena Mua  
Mainland Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs  
Nā Lei Makalapua

With the passing of Aunty Carol the following will serve in office finishing the MCAHCC 2024 Term

Pelekikena: Marlene Livesay (Hui Hawai‘i O Tenesi HCC)

Hope Pelekikena Mua: Pa‘ahana Bissen (Las Vegas HCC)

Hope Pelekikena ‘Elua: Leialoha Ka‘ula (Ka`Aha Lahui O `Olekona HCC)

Pu‘ukū: Stacen Kalei Makaiwi (Las Vegas HCC)

Council Na Kālimoku:  
Dennis Rose (Ke Ali`i Bernice Paki of Kansas City HCC)

Council Na Kalaimoku:  
Sandy Cunningham (Ke Ali`i David La‘amea Kalakaua HCC, Wisconsin.)



**Pa‘ahana  
Bissen,  
LVHCC  
Koho Mua  
(Mainland  
Council  
Rep.) &**

**Hope  
Pelekikena  
Mua Na Lei  
Makalapua  
(Mainland  
Council)**



**Pa'ahana  
Bissen,  
LVHCC  
Koho Mua  
(Mainland  
Council  
Rep.) &**

**Hope  
Pelekikena  
Mua Na Lei  
Makalapua  
(Mainland)**



**1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER MEETING OF  
NA LEI MAKALAPUA  
The Mainland Council of Hawaiian  
Civic Clubs  
March 1-3, 2024  
Santa Ana, CA**

It was a solemn gathering as the Lei of the MCAHCC gathered. Just week prior unexpected news came announcing the passing of Carol Nalani Johnson – it was also unexpected to her. As representatives from Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Utah, Nevada, Tennessee, California and Hawai'i convened a memorial was staged by Hope Pelekikena Mua Marlene Livesay, Kipuka Ola Pelekikena Charlene Lui and CA hosting coordinator Charlene Kazner MCAHCC secretary. The presentation drew tears from one and all as it was disclosed that Aunty Carol had begun planning this 1 Quarter meeting since the ending of AHCC Convention in October 2023. Knowing that this gathering would be the first MCAHCC in person meeting since 2020 -the COVID years, Aunty Carol worked tirelessly to secure funding to cover all travel, hotel stay and food for the clubs. She secured \$70,000 from Kipuka Ola Native Hawaiian Resources and Keola (a private Foundation) with the help of Charlene Lui and Tee Furtado. Along with the funding enlisted presenters CEO Dr. Sheri-Ann Daniels of Papa Ola Lokahi and Dr. Sylvia Hussey of Pueo Consulting and former CEO of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Both came forward to sound accolades of Aunty Carol and the months of numerous phone calls and emails to fine tune in, her eyes, a momentous gathering of and for the Mainland Council. A most poignant moment came when Charlene Lui recalled going to Aunty Carol's home to collect records for the Mainland Council: "When I went into her home, I found organized folders and copies made for all the officers, Board Members, and component clubs. It broke my heart knowing how much she was looking forward to the meeting, anxiously preparing and so excited to announce the funding. In her last year as MCAHCC Pelekikena she wanted this meeting to be her legacy." Indeed it was.

**I ku mau mau! (Stand together!)  
I ku wa! (Stand, Shout!)**

**Our California Clubs came together to host the 3-day Conference:**

`Ahahui O Lili`uokalani HCC (Los Angeles) Pelekikena, Noelani Rivera  
`Ainahu O Kaleponi HCC (Orange County) Pelekikena Eric Kakahara  
`Ahahui Kiwila Hawai'i O San Diego HCC Pelekikena Moana Alo  
Kaha I Ka Panoa Kaleponi HCC (Riverside) Pelekikena Lono Kollars

**MCAHCC clubs in attendance:**

Las Vegas HCC  
Ka `Aha Lāhui O `Olekona HCC  
Kauwahi `Ainana Hawai'i HCC  
Moku`aina A Wakinekona HCC  
Hui Hawai'i O Tenesi HCC  
Hui Hawai'i O Utah HCC

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**1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER MEETING OF  
NA LEI MAKALAPUA  
The Mainland Council of Hawaiian  
Civic Clubs**



**Pa'ahana  
Bissen,  
LVHCC  
Koho Mua  
(Mainland  
Council  
Rep.) &**

**Hope  
Pelekikena  
Mua Na Lei  
Makalapua  
(Mainland  
Council)**

**PRESENTATION & WORKSHOP**

**PAPA OLA LOKAHI – Condition of Hawai'i and on the Continent:** Papa Ola Lōkahi is the Native Hawaiian organization primarily responsible for the statutory implementation of the Native Hawaiian Healthcare Improvement Act and other federal and state regulations.

Dr. Sheri-Ann Daniels conducted the first presentation. Having just returned from conferences in Washington D.C. as well as with the White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, her report was urgent and direct. Now is the time for Hawaiians on the continent to voice their presence loud and clear to their respective States in the Union. Our communities must be vocal to claim available funds and services that are being set to support the growing Native Hawaiian population. But, we (MCAHCC) must do the work and lead our communities to the “wai” water. The diaspora of Hawaiians leaving Hawai'i has raised awareness on all Federal agencies' levels and in warning, allocation of services and funding to Native Hawaiian agencies may diminish in Hawai'i as the numbers in population who need servicing lowers. Taking note, Native Hawaiian agencies such as Papa Ola Lokahi in return are requesting more funding with large portions of these funds directed to assist/train Hawaiian communities on the continent to unite and advocate for needed assistance from the States. Dr. Daniels sees the MCAHCC as the best recipient of these funds as our organization is the longest and savviest to advocate for Native Hawaiians. According to Dr. Daniels, Papa Ola Lokahi has initiated funding tracks to Kipuka Ola Native Hawaiian Resources with request that our component clubs submit funding requests through Kipuka being most direct and expedient. The funds were specifically directed for MCAHCC usage.

**E lau hoe main a wa'a  
Everyone paddles the canoe**

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**1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER MEETING OF NA LEI  
MAKALAPUA  
The Mainland Council of Hawaiian Civic  
Clubs**

**CAPACITY BUILDING AND SUSTAINING**



**Pa'ahana  
Bissen,  
LVHCC  
Koho Mua  
(Mainland  
Council  
Rep.) &**

**Hope  
Pelekikena  
Mua Na Lei  
Makalapua  
(Mainland  
Council)**

The MCAHCC workshop was supported by a grant from Papa Ola Lōkahi as an opportunity to strengthen our MCAHCC organizations:

- Kipuka Ola Native Hawaiian Resources (Kipuka Ola)
- MCAHCC - Nā Lei Makalapua Mainland Council
- 17 Mainland Hawaiian Civic Clubs (HCC)

An intensive and dynamic workshop was presented and steered by Dr. Sylvia Hussey for 2 days. Her company Pueo Consulting provides a broad range of education and business expertise support in the varied areas: administration; governance; leadership; management; organizational structure; strategic, tactical and operational planning, projections and execution; education and leadership program design and evaluation; research; bookkeeping and financial statement and report preparation; audit preparation and support; and event, project and program management.

The workshop was an “engine” check on the condition of the MCAHCC.

It was surely was needed as clubs revealed issues of purpose

sustaining and increasing membership

financial instability

need for leadership recruitment, training and sustainment

making room for 'opio and kupuna

descension and disruptions in clubs

Professionally delivered, the workshop provided answers and addressed possible solutions to the questions posed.

The handouts were truly valuable and I look to see if we can post them on our LVHCC website for members to peruse.

**DEPARTING**

At the end of the 3-day gathering every attendee walked away ho'owaiwai (enriched) from the Council event as the program was:

Highly relevant

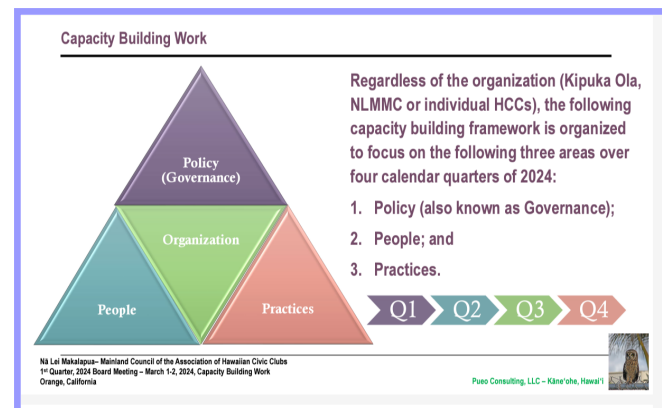
Covered a wide range of pertinent topics

Very interactive – refreshing club bonds as well as creating new

Transitional – recognizing generational changes necessary to keep our Civic Clubs alive and well

Excellent Native Hawaiian professionals who lead the workshops sharing their expertise, knowledge, influence and skill sets

**Mahalo piha to  
Pelekikena Carol  
Nalani Johnson for  
your makana (gift) to  
the MCAHCC.**

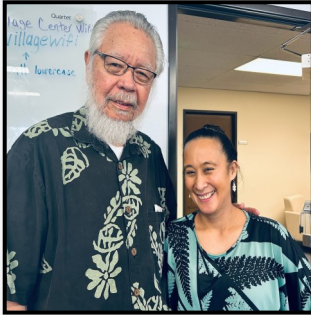




**Nā Lei Makalapua 1st Quarter, 2024  
Board Meeting held in Southern  
California on March 1-2, 2024.**



The meeting began with a series of workshops on Friday & Saturday afternoon led by special guests including Dr. Sheri Daniels and Sylvia Hussey. A special memorial was set up for Pelekikena Carol Johnson who recently passed. Saturday morning saw the Council meeting occurring with a series of special training workshops occurring on Sunday for attending 'Ōpio (Youth) at Noelani Mengel's Hale (2nd VP of Aina hau O Kaleponi) who Chairs the Na Lei Makalapua Na 'Ōpio and Eco-systems & Environment Committee."



**Special Training for 'Ōpio at hale  
of Noelani Mengel,  
2nd V.P of Aina hau O Kaleponi &  
Chair for Na 'Ōpio (Youth)  
Committee for Na Lei  
Makalapua & Eco-systems &  
Environment Committee Chair for  
Na Lei Makalapua (Mainland  
Council) and Environmental  
Committee Chair for the  
Association of Hawaiian Civic  
Clubs.**



# THE FIGHTING ANGELS VOLLEYBALL CLUB—A NEW CORPORATE MEMBER OF LVHCC



***BUMP! SET! SPIKE!*** With the increasing rise of volleyball clubs in the Las Vegas valley, so are the cost associated with it. We found a diamond in the rough club located in the northwest side of the valley that has given opportunities for kids in the community to compete in some of the grandest stage of volleyball tournaments. Fighting Angels Volleyball Club President & Founder Stephen Carvajal whose mission to provide families an affordable program is impacting the stigma of only families with money can have their kids play club. Coach Stephen said “when you ask me the why behind the why, when it is all said and done, it’s all for the kids. I am grateful for our parents’ support with fundraisers, donations, and business sponsorships that has kept my vision going for the past 5 years.” The program is led by Coaching Director Kaelene Makaiwi. She is sharing not only her knowledge and experience of volleyball to her players but the passion and love she has for the game. According to Coach Stephen, “she is the heart and soul of this club that is driving our players to their full potential and giving them a shot to play higher level volleyball.” The year round program consist of club season tournaments from November to July and a Volleyball Academy program during the summer that help keep the kids busy with the conditioning of core volleyball fundamentals.



**Stephen C. Carvajal**  
*Club President*

☎ Cell: 702.518.5391  
✉ [Stephen.FightingAngels@gmail.com](mailto:Stephen.FightingAngels@gmail.com)  
🌐 [FightingAngels.club](http://FightingAngels.club)



Our Mission: Fighting Angels Volleyball Club is an IRS-registered, 501(c)3 charitable nonprofit organization that is committed to providing affordable competitive athletic opportunities and educational support to young athletes in the Las Vegas area. All donations go to support Fighting Angels VBC volleyball programs; U.S.-based donations are tax-deductible. We believe every young athlete deserves the opportunity to play club volleyball, regardless of socioeconomic background or level of play.





Oni Onekea  
LVHCC Charter Member  
TRAVEL COLUMN

Aloha All,

I am planning a Hermosa Beach trip...lets hit the beach, enjoy the sunset with a cup of your favorite drink! It will be midweek, not a weekend. Short ride from airport. Book your own travel arrangements. **Lodging information will follow in LVHCC June Issue...**

Also, consider a fun time for **July 11th (Thurs)**. I will suggest coming up to the **Mount Charleston Inn** for a "coffee mixer", talk story and enjoy the surrounding area.

I will stay Overnight. Some of you may want to make reservations. At least we can enjoy the cool weather.

A Hui Oni



**SUNSET AT HERMOSA BEACH!**





## *Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club Scholarships*

Each year LVHCC goes to work in raising funds to award scholarships and grants to our Keiki, 'Ōpio, Haumana, and Kupuna living the "9th Island."

Currently the LVHCC offers the following Scholarships:

**Founders Scholarship** - <https://www.lasvegashawaiiancivicclub.net//founders-scholarship/>

**Kamehameha Schools Exploration** - <https://www.lasvegashawaiiancivicclub.net/kamehameha-schools-exploration/>

**LVHCC Essay Scholarship** - <https://www.lasvegashawaiiancivicclub.net/lvhcc-essay-scholarship/>

**Educational Stipend** - <https://www.lasvegashawaiiancivicclub.net/educational-stipend/>

**Scholarship Resources** - <https://www.lasvegashawaiiancivicclub.net/scholarship-resources/>



## Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club Scholarships 2023



*Derek Kwon*

Recipient of

Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club Founders Scholarship

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for the scholarship that you have so generously awarded me. This scholarship will help me pursue my dream of becoming a doctor and making a difference in the healthcare world for underprivileged communities in Las Vegas. I am going to major in Biology, and through my studies, I will develop a deep understanding of the importance of healthcare in our society. Receiving this scholarship has been a life-changing event for me. It has not only provided me with financial assistance but also boosted my confidence and motivation to continue my studies. I feel honored and grateful for the support that you have given me. With the help of this scholarship, I am one step closer to achieving my career goals. I am committed to making a positive impact on underprivileged communities in Las Vegas by improving the healthcare system. This scholarship has given me the opportunity to pursue my dreams and has made a significant difference in my life. Once again, thank you for your generosity and support. I am deeply appreciative of this scholarship and will work hard to honor your investment in my future.

*Thank You!*



*Shayla Dang*

Recipient of

Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club Founders Scholarship

Thank you so much for making the Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club Founders Scholarship and awarding it to me. I am deeply honored to receive this award.

I am currently a senior at Coronado High School, but I will be attending the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in the fall to major in Nursing. Throughout my life, I demonstrated a passion of caring for others, whether that be taking care of my younger brother or giving my friends advice when they were down. My dream is to transform the healthcare field with my own medical practice as a nurse practitioner. To do this, I must complete undergraduate and graduate education. This financial assistance you have generously granted will be of significant benefit to fund the costly long years of schooling. Instead of worrying about debt, I can focus on my studies to earn my degrees and reach my career goal.

I cannot thank you enough for selecting me as your scholarship recipient. Your earnest investment will stick with me forever. With my hard work and dedication, I promise I will utilize this scholarship to increase empathy in the healthcare industry and ensure quality care for every patient.

*Thank You!*



**Ho'omaika'i 'ana ia 'oe to Shayla Dang and Derek Kwon as our Club Founder's Scholarship Winners for 2023!  
Their Thank You Notes are Below!**

**NEWEST MEMBERS:**

**WELCOME!!**

**Associate Partner:**

Susan Lingelbach (Hawaii Pacific University)

**Corporate Member:**

Fighting Angels Volleyball Club and Las Vegas  
Dream Homes

**Makua Member:** Stephen Carvajal

**Kupuna Members:**

Daniel Sherer,  
Linda & Rick Recania



# PAST EVENTS



Las Vegas  
Hawaiian Civic Club

is proud to announce  
our participation in the  
7th Annual Chinese New Year in  
the Desert  
Spring Festival Parade  
Saturday, February 17, 2023  
11am – 1pm

LVHCC is seeking community participation,  
those who are interested in walking or  
riding with our club at this event. Free  
Admission. Limited free Street Parking (11th  
& Freemont, FCFS). Wear your Red LVHCC  
Polos, Red T-shirts, comfortable shoes, and  
bring your Hae Hawaii Flag

Meet up time: 10am

Contact: lasvegashcc@gmail.com



**LVHCC  
MEMBERS,**

**HAWAII  
PACIFIC  
UNIVERSITY  
REPRESENTATIVES**

**MEMBERS OF  
KANAKA HEKILI  
MOTORCYCLE CLUB**



**CHINESE  
NEW YEARS'  
PARADE  
CANDID  
MEMORIES**

**FEB. 17, 2024  
ARTS  
DISTRICT**

**LVHCC  
MEMBERS,  
HAWAII  
PACIFIC  
UNIVERSITY  
REP.**

**MEMBERS  
OF KANAKA  
HEKILI  
MOTORCYCLE  
CLUB**

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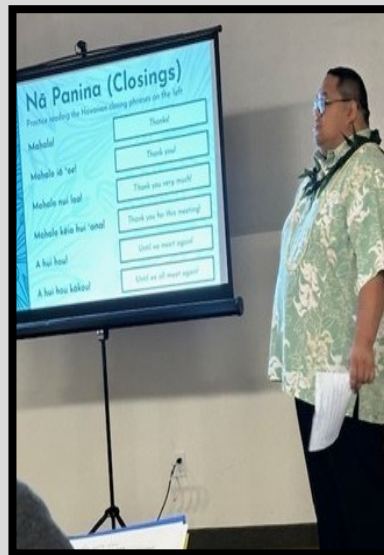
**Picture with Gail & Maggie  
MC at Parade Eric Uehara**



Nicole Rene-Petri (1st VP), Doreen Hall Vann (Past President) and Zaiden Vann (Member) attended Hawaiian language class, sponsored by Zippy's and taught by Kumu Kahanuola Solatorio from E Ho'opili Mai (O'ahu). What an amazing Class!!

Mahalo Kākou!!

February 2024





**Many happy birthday returns LVHCC Members!!!**

**JANUARY:**

**Doreen Hall Vann  
Zaiden Vann  
Lynette Macauley  
Kaipo Cullen  
Pi'ikea Cullen  
Vincent Souza  
Kehau Bryce**

**FEBRUARY:**

**Lynda Espinoza  
Gwen Fred  
William Olds  
Janel Ortega  
Michelle Souza  
Edine Swain  
Micheal Arakaki  
Nestor Tani  
Shai Walter  
Avia Blackard  
Linda Recania**

**MARCH:**

**Laruraleen O'Connor  
Maggie Perry  
Nate Makaiwi  
Elvira Serrano  
Delwayne Arakaki  
Kamaile Brannon  
Daniel Sherer**



# CANDIDS FROM THE LVHCC 7TH ANNUAL BUSINESS 'AHA'AINA MAKAHIKI EVENT ON MARCH 16, 2024





**CANDIDS FROM KANAKA HEKILI MC  
MARCH 10, 2024 LUAU  
LEI PO'O CREATED &  
DONATED BY LVHCC  
MEMBER HIRO NAKASHIMA  
LVHCC VOLUNTEERS: DEBRA CHOCK, DOREEN,  
MARQUEE & ZAIDEN VANN; NON MEMBER  
VOLUNTEER: PATTI SNODGRASS .  
PERFORMING WERE: HĀLAU NA LEI O  
KAHIKILANI**





**Aloha LVHCC Members,**

**Hawai`i Pacific University (HPU) will be coming to Las Vegas with a new satellite campus this Fall! To meet the growing healthcare needs, HPU is launching two new degrees: **Doctor of Occupational Therapy and Doctor of Physical Therapy**. The inaugural student cohort for the Occupational Therapy (OT) program will begin August 2024 and Physical Therapy (PT) in January 2025. Both programs are hybrid and accelerated in nature, that allows both programs to be delivered online and in-person and all in two years! This format allows students from all over the United States to attend these programs without having to relocate to Las Vegas!**

**For more information about the programs:**

**OT- Susan Lingelbach [slingelbach@hpu.edu](mailto:slingelbach@hpu.edu)**

**PT-Greg Ayscue [gayscue@hpu.edu](mailto:gayscue@hpu.edu)**

**The new building is located off of Jones and the I-215.**

**If you would like to learn more information about the Occupational Therapy program, attend the Virtual Open House on April 4th at 4pm or 6pm. This open house will highlight the profession, unique areas of practice, and curriculum program. All are welcome to attend! RSVP your attendance by completing this form at <https://forms.office.com/r/Qj4FYRQamL>.**

**Robyn Otty, OTD, OTR/L, BCPR, FAOTA**

**Program Director and Professor**

**Graduate College of Health Sciences**

**Hawai`i Pacific University**

**Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program - Las Vegas**

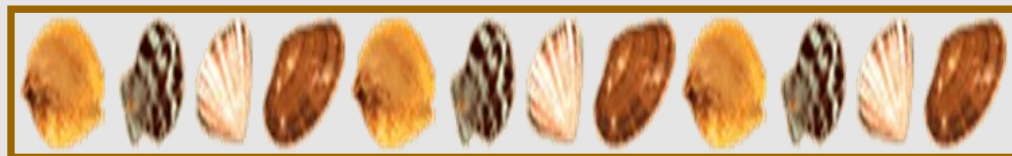
**Phone: (808) 356-5244**

**Email: [rotty@hpu.edu](mailto:rotty@hpu.edu)**

**Learn More About the OTD Program**

Paul Meyers donated this canoe and the Kapa cloth in the pictures in memory of his wife, Kazuyo Karan (1973-2023) to an organization where many can appreciate them.

LVHCC is proud and grateful to receive these donations.

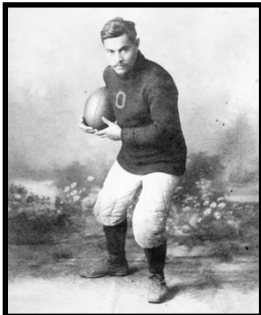


## Na A'a Mo'aukala (Historical Roots)

by Gail Wright & Pat Filbert



**Gail Wright  
Ho'opa'a  
Mo'olelo  
(Historian)**



The recent Las Vegas Superbowl saw recognition of several Lahainaluna High School football team seniors and their coaches after the fires on Maui. They also served as honorary coin toss captains for the game. Recognizing them takes us back in history to recognize the first Native Hawaiian Football Player.

John Henry Wise was born in 1868 in Kohala, Moku e Keawe and attended Hilo Boarding School until moving to Kamehameha School for Boys. In 1890, the Hawaiian Evangelical Association raised funds to send him to Oberlin Theological College in Ohio, U.S., near the Great Lakes. After arriving, he soon realized how cold it gets there and wrote in a letter, "Please send more money, I need more long underwear. It's freezing in the Great Lakes."

Wise was recruited as a member of the new Oberlin College football team in 1891. The team wasn't very good in the first year. In 1892, things changed with the arrival of a coach who worked for free as the school couldn't afford to pay him. This coach took the team on to become one of the best in the U.S. with John Wise as the star. The name of the coach? John Heisman, the man the Heisman Trophy is named after that's given annually to the best college football player in the nation.

In 1893 Wise received news of the overthrow of the Hawaiian Monarchy, comes home, and sides with the Hawaiian Royalists during the Wilcox Rebellion in 1895. He gets arrested and spends three years in prison. When he got out, he helped found Ka Makua Mau Loa Church which conducts its teachings in 'Olelo Hawai'i. He worked with former Prince David Kawānanakoa at the 1900 Democratic National Convention and, in 1920, was a territorial senator and is credited along with Prince Kūhio for pushing the Hawaiian Home Lands Act through Congress. Wise then began translating Hawaiian legends for the Bishop Museum and taught 'Olelo Hawai'i at Kamehameha Schools and then University of Hawai'i.

Wise passed away in 1937. UH honored him by naming the school's athletic field after him. Wise's legacy lived on through his 'Ohana, with his son Bill as a football all-star at UH who later coached his own athletic sons to many victories at Kamehameha. Wise's great-grandson, Les Hutchins, former lineman at Pearl City High School in the 1970s, believes Wise deserves a place in the Polynesian Football Hall of Fame.

\* \* \*

Sources: "The story of John Henry Wise, the first Native Hawaiian college football player in 1892," <https://www.hawaiipublicradio.org/the-conversation/2022-02-28/the-story-of-john-henry-wise-the-first-native-hawaiian-college-football-player-in-1892>, "The First Native Football Player," <https://www.midweek.com/first-native-football-player/>, "Remembering John Henry Wise, OC 1893, Revered Lineman, Hawai'ian Royalist," <https://oberlinreview.org/30039/sports/remembering-john-henry-wise-oc-1893-revered-lineman-hawaiian-royalist/>, "Lahainaluna football team receives standing ovation during NFL Honors," <https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2024/02/09/lahainaluna-football-team-receives-standing-ovation-during-nfl-honors>



**Patrick  
Filbert  
Hope  
Pelekikena  
'Elua  
(2nd Vice  
President)**



**UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!  
(MAHALO NUI TO CHARLES HERRING FOR SHARING HIS CALENDAR)**



FIGHTING ANGELS VOLLEYBALL PRESENTS  
SUNDAY, 7TH APRIL 2024

**EASTER EGG HUNT AND POTLUCK**

Easter Egg Hunt Times:  
11:30 AM 5 & UNDER  
12 PM 6-10  
12:30 PM 10-14  
1 PM 15 & UP

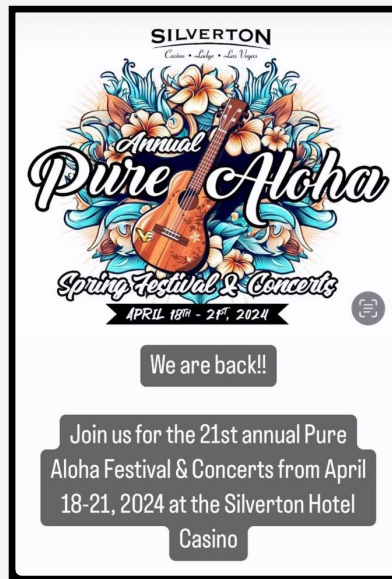
First 50 kids who register will receive a goodie bag  
Centennial Hills Park, 7101 N Buffalo Dr, Las Vegas, NV 89131  
SAND COURTS  
Start At 1100 AM, Free Entry For All



Las Vegas Okinawan Club Presents  
**Okinawan Picnic**  
ラスベガス沖縄県人会ピクニック

2024年4月13日 土曜日  
April 13, 2024 Sat, 11 am - 2 pm  
Craig Ranch Regional Park  
628 W Craig Rd, North Las Vegas, NV 89032  
Village Lodge#1

\$5 per Person. Kids Under 5 are FREE  
Potluck - Bring a dish to share  
Must RSVP - Text Our Coordinators  
Cris Moreno (785) 341-2528  
Lynn Oshiro (702) 608-3038



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**Pure Aloha**  
Annual Spring Festival & Concerts  
APRIL 18th - 21st, 2024

We are back!!

Join us for the 21st annual Pure Aloha Festival & Concerts from April 18-21, 2024 at the Silverton Hotel Casino



**KAHĀ**  
*Ka Aha Ho'olauna Aloha*  
JUNE 28 - 30, 2024  
EMBASSY SUITES | LAS VEGAS, NV  
**A GATHERING OF ALOHA**  
TO CELEBRATE  
HAWAIIAN CULTURE & HISTORY

**APRIL:**

- 3-7 MERRIE MONACH HULA FESTIVA, HILO, HI – STREAMIN ON LINE
- 6—5th KIZUNA JAPANESE SPRING FESTIVAL 11:00 SAMMY DAVIS, JR. FESTIVAL PLAZA, LORENZI PARK
- 13 Okinawan Annual Picnic, Craig Ranch
- 26-28 Holo Holo Las Vegas Concert Festival
- 27 Na Hui Halia's Hui Annual Potluck, 11:00 a.m. Green Valley Park, 370 N. Pecos Road

**MAY:**

- 1 May Day Parade: Downtown Summerlin. PM (Summerlin Mall—Free  
(Na Hula Halia Aloha to Perform
- 3-4 Flavor of Aloha Festival Location TBA
- 5 May Day Event. Town Square 10a Na Hula to dance
- 9- Tendo Baikoki Japanese Group Recital, Winchester Culture Center -Hula program perform-stipend
- 11 Na Hula **Bingo** Luncheon Fundraiser Park.12N – 9Pm.

**JUNE:**

- 8- Henderson Equality Center. 4<sup>th</sup> Annual PRIDE FESTIVAL. Sunset Park.12N – 9Pm.
- 9- Tendo Baikoki Japanese Group Recital, Winchester Culture Center -Hula program perform-stipend
- 16- Father's Day.
- 22-23- Na Hula. SAN DIEGO HO'OLAULE'A. Huaka'i- Preble Park-Liberty Station.
- 28-30- KAHĀ~ Ka 'Aha Ho'olauna Aloha. Hawaiian organization from Hawai'i. Embassy Suite by Hilton on Paradise. \$\$\$. Hula workshop, craft & lecture. Registration Link:

<https://www.hawaiikaha.com/category/all-products>

## PAT'S HEALTH ARTICLE



**Patrick  
Filbert  
Hope  
Pelekikena  
'Elua**

*"No Hawaiian leader wants to lead a nation of sick Kānaka."*—Hawai'i Island activist Palikapu Dedman, 1998. Sage words. History shows that for more than 2,000 years, Hawai'i supported a population of Kānaka who were healthy, living in a state of lōkahi and pono, and focused on physical, mental, and spiritual wellbeing. Why? Maintaining healthy bodies and minds was a requirement as their lives depended on staying uninjured, mobile, and strong to maintain their culture and keep their 'Ohana safe.

Today, the ease of getting cheap and unhealthy food, smoking and vaping, and favoring being on your phone and not being active (slowly wandering in the park looking at your phone is not true exercise!) has led many to become chronically ill and pushed being overweight as a national health crisis. The high-availability of poor food choices are problems that allow for dietary over-consumption and empty-calories.

This results in chronic heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, and atherosclerosis are directly related to poor food choices and food excesses. In seeking remedies to obesity, the 'Ohana is viewed as the critical player. Potential 'Ohana solutions can be avoiding fast foods, making and eating healthy meals, and engaging in physical activities as a family (NOT INCLUDING sitting in a movie theater eating popcorn, nachos, and hotdogs while drinking an Icee) to make lasting memories.

Being overweight is the first step toward the health problems harms listed above that can and do shorten your life. Add alcohol and the list of risks grows longer. Importantly, being overweight signals to us that change is needed to avoid greater harm. Harm that comes from leaving your 'Ohana far too soon or, worse, placing high costs of your care on your 'Ohana. This causes stress which affects their health.

Becoming active through daily exercise and changing food choices can begin to address concerns of overweight individuals. The ancestral diet was almost 80% vegetables, including, taro, lū'au, palula, poi, sweet potato, 'ulu, greens and limu. Today, everyone eats too much meat; particularly processed meats (Spam, hotdogs, sausages, etc.) which adds up to two times the protein that the ancestors ate. Fish is far superior to canned meats, sausage, pork, or egg protein.

It takes will power and a conscious decision to eat right and be physically active. Many people let other concerns (pilikia!) get in the way. They work hard, focus on caring for others, and forget about taking care of themselves. Remembering you need to be healthy to care for others requires setting aside time to do that. It also requires you put those phones, vapes/cigarettes, bad food down, get out there, and be physical.

Creating memories as an 'Ohana means getting outside and actually doing that and instead of "heads down, looking at the small screen." Physical activity is very important to our wellbeing, whether it's through cultural practices like hula and lomilomi or simply enjoying a walk out in nature. So is prioritizing regular check-ups and talking about health challenges to create a supportive network.

"Take a break from your pilikia!" Problems drive our decisions and outlook on life. Don't let problems occupy your thoughts to the point of creating endless worry, anxiety, and stress. You control what you do so challenging yourself with new experiences and skills—confronting your pilikia head-on means not adding preconditions to everything. You don't like exercising? Take the dog for a walk. Slack off on your diet? Include healthier foods in your meals. Change your mindset from "there's nothing I can do about it" to **"what can I do to fix this issue?"**

**Every huaka'i (journey) starts with the first step. So start walking!**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**JANUARY, 2024**



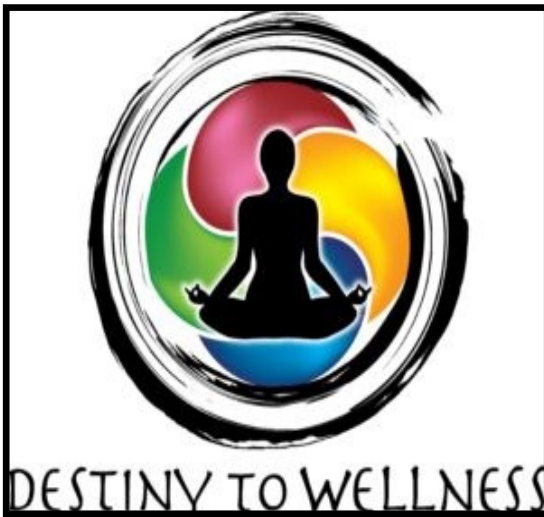
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***Fighting Angels Volleyball Club***

**ASSOCIATE PARTNERS**



COMMUNITY PARTNERS





# AHA 'AINA MAKAHIKI

## BUSINESS MIXER

"A'a Ika Olelo" - Dare to Speak

MARCH 16, 2024  
10 AM - 1 PM

SEIU  
2250 S. RANCHO DRIVE  
#165  
LAS VEGAS, NV 89102



REFRESHMENTS MEET & GREET NETWORKING

RSVP and email your organization's or club's calendar to lvhccahainamakahi@gmail.com



# 7th Annual 'Aha'aina Makahiki Business Mixer on March 16, 2024

The Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club held its 7th Annual 'Aha'aina Makahiki - Business Mixer on March 16, 2024 at the SEIU Local 1107, 2250 South Rancho, #165 Las Vegas, NV 89102. **The komike members were Nicole-Rene Petri and Stacen Makaiwi.** LVHCC Board Members present were Nicole-Rene Petri and Stacen Makaiwi, Pat Filbert, Nate Makaiwi, Debra Chock, Maggie Perry and Gail Wright . LVHCC Members attended and 8 organizations had representatives at the 'Aha. The total number of participants at the event was 20. The event was live streamed on Facebook with 44 viewers. **Event Objective:** Throughout the calendar year of 2024, the goal is to pinpoint upcoming community events hosted by diverse organizations and investigate avenues for LVHCC to offer support, facilitate connections, promote participation, and attend these events. Additionally, organizing a business mixer to foster networking among local businesses and organizations, enabling collaborative opportunities and business interactions. Attendees also explored ways for participating organizations to mutually support each other and mitigate scheduling conflicts to ensure maximum event attendance. Event Process: LVHCC offered an open forum where representatives from each organization can introduce themselves, outline their mission, goals, and share their calendar of events. This platform provided an opportunity for the distribution of flyers, printed materials and a brief Q&A session. Following the presentations, the komike will compile all event information into a unified calendar, which will be published and distributed. Additionally, LVHCC will gather event details from organizations unable to attend the forum to ensure comprehensive coverage.

Event Flow • Kumu Charles Herring, Na Hula Hali'a Aloha, provided an opening Pule and 'Oli • Hope Pelekikena Mua Nicole-Rene Petri provided opening remarks, introduced attending LVHCC Board Members, and welcomed attendees in-person and on-line • Kakau 'Olelo Ho'opa'a Doreen Vann, Emcee, conducted an opening 'Oli • Emcee introduced the attending organizations, oversaw Q&A sessions and identified the LVHCC fundraiser (Raffles) 1 • A working lunch, catered by Generations Kitchen mac salad, fried noodles and chicken katsu and a donation by 2 Scoops of Aloha (Shai Walters) with spam musubi, tempura shrimp, marinated tofu, spring rolls , occurred as presentations continued (Raffles) • Komike members Na'Alakai Stacen Makaiwi and Hope Pelekikena Mua Nicole-Rene Petri provided closing remarks

- The 7th Annual 'Aha'aina Makahiki ended at 1:30 pm

### Participants:

- Hawaii Pacific University (LV Campus), Susan Lingelbach - Julia and Sabrina - Hawai'i Pacific University's Doctor of Occupational Therapy (HPU OTD) program's mission is to develop globally responsive, diverse occupational therapy leaders and practitioners who use their knowledge and skills to address the complex needs of people and society through occupation, leadership, and collaborative practice; embodying the values of Aloha, Pono, Kuleana, Kōkua, and Laulima.

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**



**Continued: Annual 'Aha'aina Makahiki - Business Mixer on March 16, 2024 *EVENT***

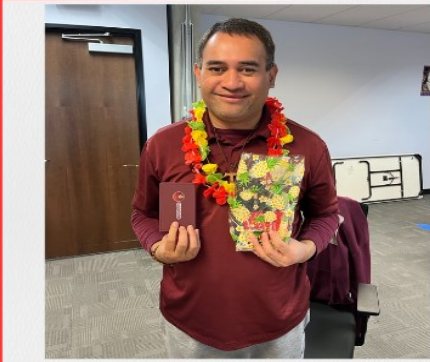
- Pipeline2Paradise Radio, Pu'ukani Sebala - Celebrating 20 years of sharing Hawaiian & Island Music. Las Vegas' 24-Hour Hawaiian Music Station is Pipeline 2 Paradise Radio
- Las Vegas Dream Homes, John Faulis - We're here to help you find the home of your dreams with our extensive knowledge and experience will ensure you have the best home buying experience possible or we take the stress out of selling your home by providing a seamless experience from start to finish. Impossible is Possible Home Loans, spearheaded by the dedicated Melinda Casem, isn't just about providing mortgages—it's about turning dreams into reality. Through various initiatives and campaigns, she has become a vocal advocate for women's empowerment, inspiring and uplifting women to break barriers and pursue their aspirations fearlessly.
- The Bee Hive , Bridget Ganigan Nava -The Bee Hive women and teen organization were able to host numerous events throughout Las Vegas and Hawaii. We look forward to volunteering, providing services, meals and supplies to those in need in the community. The Bee Hive were also blessed to visit and reach out to communities in other countries such as Mexico, Cuba, and Costa Rica.
- 2 Scoops of Aloha, Shai Walter -Ono food served with hospitality. With a rich history of serving the community dating back to 2005, 2 Scoops of Aloha has become a beloved fixture, cherished by locals and visitors alike. Established since 2017.
- Kamaaina Kravings- Tiffany Dixon Leleua With a passion for showcasing the diverse flavors, Kama'aina Kravings actively participates in events and is a dancer with 25 years of dedicated experience in the industry.
- St. Thomas Moore, Liberty High School, Farrington Alumni Assoc, Ropati Liua -Pasifika community member connecting pacific islanders who have recently moved to Las Vegas
- Na Hula Hali'a Aloha Cultural Preservation, Kumu Charles Herring -Nā Hula Hali'a Aloha Cultural Preservation organization is a community HUI whose vision and mission is to promote and keep the "Aloha Spirit" alive by perpetuating our Hawaiian and Polynesian culture, heritage and traditional beliefs through music, dance and the art craft known as "Nā Mea Hawai'i.





**Las Vegas  
Hawaiian Civic Club**

# 7th Annual Aha 'Aina Makahiki Business Mixer



**Las Vegas Hawaiian Civic Club  
Our 35th Year (1989—2024)**

**Pelekikena  
(President)  
Kalani Heu**



**Hope Pelekikena Mua  
(1st Vice President)  
Nicole-Rene Kuuleinani  
Petri**



**Hope Pelekikena 'Elua  
(2nd Vice President)  
Patrick Filbert**



**Kākau Ōlelo  
Ho'opa'a  
(Secretary)**



**Pu'ukūi  
(Treasurer)**



**Koho Mua  
(Mainland Council Rep.)**



**Doreen Hall  
Vann**

**Nate Makaiwi**

**Pa'ahana Bissen**

**Na Alaka'i—Directors**



**Maggie Perry**



**Debra Leimomi Chock**

**Motto**  
**Kūlia E Loa'a Ka Na'au'ao**  
*Strive to Obtain Wisdom*

**Date Chartered:**  
**July 28, 1989**  
**Club Colors:**  
**Red & Gold**

**Club Flowers:**  
**White Carnation and**  
**'Ohai Ali'i**

**Club Song He Hawai'i Au**



**Stacen Makaiwi**



**Gail Wright, Ho'opa'a  
Mo'olelo (Historian)**