KAILUA HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB
PREFACE

Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaole had a vision to organize the Hawaiian Civic Club in 1918, which later became the HCC of Honolulu. In 1948 six Hawaiian civic clubs on Oahu were already organized and operating individually. Oahu Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs was founded in 1949 after several meetings with the Oahu clubs. The Territorial Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs was organized in the late 1950s uniting the 6 clubs from Oahu and 8 clubs from the neighbor islands in one common effort: Ewa, Honolulu, Koolaupoko, Nanaikapono, Waialua-Wahiawa, and Waianae; Hamakua, Hilo, Kona, Waiamea, Kapaa, Kahului, Lahaina, and Hoolehua. Very little happened in the next eight years, which was of particular concern to the Oahu Council so they hosted the first convention of the Territorial Council of HCCs at Princess Kaiulani Hotel on Saturday, 18 April 1959. There were 83 delegates from the 14 clubs throughout the territory. Kailua HCC was formed but did not participate because it had not been chartered yet. At that first convention, the name of the Territorial Council of HCCs was changed to the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, a realization of a vision initiated by Kapiolani Field and Flora Hayes after 11 years of effort.

Following the surge of the Hawaiian Renaissance in the early 1970s, the Association by 1977 boasted a total of 4,000 members from 38 clubs across the state and news articles recognized Kailua HCC as playing a major role in this number. Russ Apple [Kailua, Kona] before migrating to Kona, Hawaii Island was a featured writer for the Honolulu Star-Bulletin. In his “Tales of Old Hawaii” article dated 11 February 1983 he talks about Prince Kuhio and the Hawaiian civic club movement. The Association presidents who served from 1959 to the date of his article include: William Kea [Honolulu], Harry Field [Central Maui], Charles Kekumano [Wahiawa, Honolulu], Pilipo Springer [Kona], David Trask [Honolulu], George Mills [Koolauloa, Prince Kuhio, Kailua], Whitney Anderson [Kailua, Waimanalo] and Benson Lee [Pearl Harbor]. The novelty of belonging to a Hawaiian group, many of which formed since the Hawaiian Renaissance, reached its peak and diluted the enthusiasm of the Hawaiian civic club membership that by 1984, the Association number dwindled to about 2,600 members. Jalna Keala [Alii Pauahi, Kapolei] became the first woman president after the untimely passing of Benson Lee, followed by Bruss Keppeler [Honolulu, Prince Kuhio], Arthur Hoke [Ka’u, Hilo], Charles Rose [Laupahoehoe, Kailua, Honolulu, Alii Pauahi], Benson Lee’s widow Antoinette Lee [Pearl Harbor], and as of this writing Leimomi Khan [Kalihi-Palama, Honolulu] who was elected to serve a two-year term beginning 2007. Most of the presidents have served two consecutive terms, but Whitney Anderson served three consecutive two-year terms, 1977 through 1982; and George Mills actually returned to serve a third two-year term after a time. He was the only president with the distinguished title of President Emeritus in the history of the Association, and served this capacity well during his lifetime.

There were many members on the board of the Association who left their mark in the organization’s chronicles, and although they never served as a president they were considered vital leaders to the history of the organization. To name a few: Gladys Brandt [Kauai, Prince Kuhio] who served as committee chair and board member and the key instigator in forming Na Pokii, a scholarship program for the academic achievers of native Hawaiian ancestry at the University of Hawaii-Manoa; Sid Widemann [Honolulu] who was one of the last few remaining of the original membership since the Association organized and thus was a historian of the organization in her own right, and who served as committee chair and board member during the span of her involvement; Hannie Anderson [Kailua, Waimanalo] who served as a Convention Committee chair and board member for many years, and was resourceful in keeping convention costs down; Frank Antone, and James K. Trask Sr. who were Oahu Council directors and served on the Association board in 1965-1966; AHCC Vice President John McCandless representing Oahu Council in 1967-1968; 1970 AHCC Education Committee Chair George Kaonohiokalaikekiipoohiwiokane Malama; AHCC Corresponding Secretary Mikilani Ho in 1983-1984; Oahu Council President Peter Ching, club member, was on the AHCC board in 1991-1992; and Dot Uchima [Kailua] who served as committee chair and recording secretary for seven presidents of the Association from 1971 through 2007. In 1989 AHCC Pres. Emeritus George H. Mills MD became a member of Kailua HCC; the Association newsletter Nuhou I Ka Makani was revived in March after being dormant since 1981, and its new editor was member Charles Rose.

Compiled 2006-07 by Dot Uchima, KHCC Historian
ORGANIZATION OF KAILUA HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB

On Monday, 4 August 1958 late afternoon, in the garage of “Papa” Louis K. Mahoe’s beachside home ten determined men and women gathered to discuss the formation of a Hawaiian civic club in the Kailua district, which included Clay Bishaw, Eleanor Hutchinson, “Papa” Louis Mahoe, Solomon Mahoe, Kenneth Olds, Pilahi Paki, Eleanor Hussey Santos and others, some of whom were members of the Koolaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club. The club was thereupon organized with a startup membership of people with Hawaiian ancestry that increased beyond the required minimum to be chartered into the Association. The motto of the duly named Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club was composed by Pilahi Paki, “E Ala E Na Mamo, E Ola Na Pua” -- Be alert oh people that our children may live. The club colors selected was ilima gold and black, and its flower the traditional golden ilima with black kukui nut as accessory. The club song was “Windward Side,” by entertainer Don Ho of Kaneohe; and later changed to “Na Pua Lei Ka Ilima,” composed by world renowned kumu hula Kau‘i Zuttermeister of Kaneohe, and was appropriate as it was a delicate full-sun flower of the district and a favorite of High Chief Kakuhihewa who often retreated to Kailua for rest and rejuvenation.

NA PUA LEI KA ILIMA
© By Kau‘i Zuttermeister

Nani wale na pua lei ka ilima
Lovely indeed are the ilima blossoms strung as a lei
O ka ui hooheno o Kakuhihewa
The cherished beauty of Kakuhihewa (high chief)

Hooihii ka manao la I laila
The mind is entranced by the thought
Na pua lei ilima e kaulana nei
Of the blossoms of the lei ilima, so renowned

Kulana hiehie me ka hanohano
Held in esteem and honored
Haimeo I ka maka ke ike aku
A thing of pride to behold

Kaulana na pua lei ka ilima
Famous are the blossoms of the lei ilima
Ke kikowaena o na ailana
The very heart of the island chain

Ohuohu wale ai na malihini
They adorn visitors in glory
Ka nani kaulana poina ole
The famous and unforgettable beauty

Haina ia mai ana ka puana
The story is told in the refrain
Na pua lei ilima e kaulana nei
Of the blossoms of the lei ilima, so renowned.

It was Papa Mahoe’s vision to have a Hawaiian civic club in Kailua with the objective to support the growing popularity of canoeing, to perpetuate all things Hawaiian in the district, and to provide educational scholarships to worthy students of Hawaiian ancestry. In the months that followed, people who joined the club at the time of its formation were dubbed Charter members. Mahoe, who did not want to be the president, scouted for a candidate and was excited when James K. Trask Sr. accepted the call to be the club's first president and, thus, the Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club was duly organized on 17 November 1960. Kailua HCC initially had a membership of 90 people of Hawaiian ancestry when it was accepted into the organization in December 1960 by the board of
the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, and received its charter at the 8 April 1961 session of the Association annual convention at the Maui Surf Hotel.

Attending that convention were President James Trask, Vice President Ellie Hutchinson, Papa Mahoe, Sol Mahoe, Nani Mahoe, Katherine Santos, Louise Montizar, and Violet Gomes. By the end of 1963 with the addition of the canoe paddlers section, Kailua HCC had over 500 members. The club under the leadership of president John McCandless was rechartered on Saturday, 16 April 1966 at the Association’s 9th annual convention. Exercising their autonomy, the club’s constitution and bylaws were developed including membership that was made up of charter and regular members who were native Hawaiian, or one who had children from a native Hawaiian; associate members who were non-Hawaiian; and life members, an honorary membership, who were outstanding citizens in the community whether or not they were native Hawaiian. Charter and regular members could hold any office in the club; however, associate members could serve any office except that of president.

Life members were Danny Kaleikini because of his contribution to the club and the community in promoting Hawaiian music and the spirit of aloha; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wong who made large monetary contributions to the scholarship fund; Bettie Waldron, and Dr. George and Mrs. Bobbi Mills who were stalwarts in the windward community and contributed much to promoting and perpetuating things Hawaiian. Kailua HCC sponsored several Hawaiian civic clubs that were chartered by the Association, namely: Pearl Harbor, Queen Emma, Waikki, Prince Kuhio, and Waimanalo.

The program for the Association’s 10th annual convention held in 1967 listed club members John McCandless as Oahu Council President, and James K. Trask as an Association director of the Oahu Council. The membership of the Kailua HCC by this time had grown to over 600 members and managing its civic and canoeing affairs became so complex that coach Clifford Ornellas approached club president Whitney Anderson at the time about the possibility of divesting the canoe section from the club. Anderson encouraged the member canoe paddlers to attend the membership meeting to vote on the matter, and they appeared in overwhelming numbers. Approval was passed unanimously, as expected; by year-end 1970 the membership reduced to 220 after the canoe section split from the Kailua HCC and taking on a new identity – the Kailua Canoe Club; and they purchased from the Kailua HCC the Kalanakila koa canoe, three training fiberglass canoes, and one trailer for $1500. Even with that membership number, the club still managed to pursue other avenues of excellence as noted in further chapters below. In 1973 the club had a membership of 190, dues remained at $4 per person. Hannie Anderson was the first woman president of the club in 1973 and served a total of 8 years in the club’s history; second in terms of office was Eleanor Hutchinson who served a total of 6 years.

By 1986 the club membership had declined to such an extent that only the required minimum (actually the club had 31 members) to maintain its charter was in place. Chris Faria was succeeded by Hannie Anderson as president by mid-year 1987. Charles Rose spearheaded the club reorganization that year, and with Eleanor Hutchinson they boosted the membership to 92 by October 1987. Eleanor Hutchinson was elected president in December 1988 and during the first year of her term in 1989 she further boosted the membership back up to 101 members.

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As there was no official meetinghouse, meetings of the club were held at members’ homes, Kainaliu Elementary School, Enchanted Lake Elementary School, Bayview Golf Clubhouse, Kailua Library, St. Anthony Church, Kailua YMCA, and Ulupo Heiau grounds to name a few. Club property went from president to president, or historian to historian, depending on what the items were; and it was difficult to keep inventory of them as members came and went from active involvement in the club. Sam Aki had returned from the continent and became the club’s treasurer during John McCandless’ term as president; and Papa Mahoe was quick to publicly commend Aki for his professional accountability and for getting the financial records in order. It was Aki who initiated an inventory of the club’s property that included more than just bookkeeping and historical records, but also the industrial pots, pans and cooking utensils that were used for large gatherings and food preparation of fundraisers, and the historical journals and albums.

Installation of the club’s board was usually held at the end of the year during the annual Christmas party. At that time, the club held its own Outstanding Awards ceremony.

The Helen Kane Mahalo Award – to a member for promoting outstanding educational programs that benefit the members and the community; Louis K. Mahoe Award – to a Hawaiian member for outstanding service to the club and community; James K. Trask Award – to an outstanding member for ongoing service to the club; and Pelekikena Award – to a member selected by the club president for special services to the club and community.

**CANOE SECTION**

The club’s canoe section became a dominating entity in the traditional sport and attracted many crewmembers into the Kailua HCC membership from opio to makua. The children of members for that reason became one of if not the first na opio group in the Hawaiian civic club movement. Canoes were purchased from the Kai’oni Canoe Club under the coaching leadership of Heine Gramberg. In 1964 through the coordinating effort of James K. Trask, a koa log was purchased from Kulani Prison on Hawaii Island for $900. The canoe and its gunnels were carved from this log, and wooden dowels were used to secure the construction. In 1965, by unanimous approval of the membership the canoe was christened “Kalanakila” named after James K. Trask, then president of the Kailua HCC, for his assertive support in the project. In the Waimanalo regatta two years later, the Kalanakila suffered extensive damages but was repairable and is still in operation.
The stalwarts in the canoe racing sport from Kailua HCC among others were members Hannie Anderson who by the way was a co-founder of the Wahine o Ke Kai organization of women canoe paddlers, George K. and Joan Malama, and Chris Faria to the extent that they each served as president of the Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association. The Association’s 12th annual convention held in 1970 was dedicated in memory of the AHCC Education Committee Chair and master body surfer, George Kaonohiokalaikekioohiwiokane Malama. His wife Joan Malama succeeded him in the appointment as chair of the AHCC Education Committee for five succeeding years, and held her first meeting at the 1971 convention at the Maui Beach Hotel.

CHORAL GROUP

There was a choral group during the club’s infant years. It became a 30 member group in 1963 under the dynamic and energetic leadership of Leila Hohu Kiaha as director, and they held song practice at the Kailua Intermediate School and eventually at the town pavilion nearby. Leila was a pianist who could transpose any kind of music placed before her. She had a keen ear for picking out the voices in the choral group who were not quite on their note. Her pet peeve was “scooping” - a tendency to sing a note off-key and raising the voice until the right key is reached, which is a trait of island solo performers, and this manner of singing did not make her a happy person in the choral group’s performances. She is noted for her accomplishments as a mele arranger for the Kamehameha Schools, and was a choral director for the Kalaupapa Choir of Molokai, and General Contractors Choral Group among others. At the 1963 annual Association convention in Kona Hawaii Island, Kailua HCC won second place in the Aha Mele. In 1965, Kailua HCC tied for first place with Central Maui HCC at the Association convention in Maui; the competing song was the spirited “Kamehameha March.” In early summer 1996, the choral group, chaired by members Clara Kekahuna and Kalani McCandless, performed at the Sheraton Maui Hotel as the main attraction of Central Maui HCC’s Holoku Ball and presented a pageant depicting the creation of the islands as told in ancient Hawaiian mele. In August 1966 the choral group participated in the Academy of Arts hoolaulea and presented that same pageant; the hoolaulea also featured famed Iolani Luahine, an artist in ancient hula, performing a Hawaiian paddle dance. For four years through 1968, Kailua HCC won first place in the Aha Mele at the Association convention; the 1967 win held at Princess Kaiulani Hotel on Oahu Island came with boos and name-calling such as “ho’oio” by other club members in
attendance. Surprised by this immature outburst but not intimidated by it, Leila added to the choral group’s repertoire and deviated their musical talents to other events in the years that followed where it was much appreciated, including entertainment for the Aloha Week program in Honolulu, 4th of July celebration in Kailua; annual contests among churches on Oahu; annual SPEBSQSA Inc (barbershop quartet) “Cavalcade of Choruses” at the Honolulu International Center Concert Hall (now called Blaisdell Concert Hall); at Iolani Palace on special occasions and particularly at the rededication following its restoration where the group sang from the second floor balcony to the crowd below; at Lunalilo Home that included food baskets or warm accessories made by the members; at Kaumakapili Church, Kalihi Union Church, Kahi Mohala, Maluhia Hospital, St. Anthony’s Church, Shriner’s Hospital, Castle Hospital, and Bishop Museum; for hire by hotels in Waikiki and special shows at the Pau Hana Inn, Hotel Molokai, Kahala Hilton (with Danny Kaleikini), the Hilton Hawaiian Village Mother’s Day Concert, Royal Hawaiian (with the Kahau’anu Lake Trio), Princess Kaiulani and Moana Hotels. The choral group also went Christmas caroling annually throughout the Waikiki hotels and received donations for their entertainment; and at parties in private homes of club members, as well as Washington Place, Emma Veary and J. Akuhead Pupule, Dr. George and Bobbi Mills, and at Park Shores Hotel poolside where logging tycoon Herb and Iris Jensen of Woodland Washington and their employees had standing reservations and spent their Christmas through New Year vacation. The American Medical Association, a national medical organization, would have an annual meeting in Waikiki and for several years their finale included at least three tour busloads of medical professionals and their families to a steak dinner at the Mills’ Punaluu oceanfront estate, which resulted in a hefty donation to the club’s fundraising effort. Among their most exciting contributions in song was attending Central Maui HCC’s holoku ball one year at the Kaanapali Hotel where each of the women singers wore a holoku and among the winners of the pageantry was member Blanche Keahi, judged the most beautiful holoku at the ball; member Heine Gramberg was the designer of Blanche’s winning holoku.
The choral group went on musical tours to Hawaii, Kalaupapa, Kauai, Lanai, Maui, and Molokai; Mill Valley in San Francisco in California, Newport and Catalina Island also in California, and to Woodland Washington at churches of various denominations. The choral group also performed at wedding and birthday celebrations, and funerals. Leila arranged the Association’s Aha Mele contest song, “Ka Ua Loku” for the convention held on Kauai Island in 1975; the club’s choral group had already stopped participating in the Aha Mele by this time. Leila moved on to pursue other musical opportunities and the choral group had not participated in anything during that lull. When Chris Faria was president, a new choral director, Ulu Nuuhiwa, took the challenge followed by Kaulana Gasparovich but not to the extent the choral group was accustomed. When Flossy Williamson was president, the choral group made up mostly of new members took to the stage once more in the Association’s Aha Mele non-competitive category when the convention was held at the Pacific Beach Marriott at Waikiki in 2000. Since then, the club has not had an active choral group.

In their retiring years, men and women of the original choral group came together for a special musical appearance Friday, 27 January 2006 at the memorial services of its long-time choral director, Leila Hohn Kiaha, at the Kaumakapili Church where family, close friends, members of Kailua HCC, Koolaupoko HCC, Kualoa-Heeia HCC, Queen Emma HCC, and Waikiki HCC paid homage; and the choral group sang one of her favorite mele “Lei No Ka’ulani” at her memorial services held in the chapel of Kamehameha Schools, Kapalama Campus that weekend.

**PARADES**

The Kailua community celebrates the July 4th Independence Day holiday usually with a parade and program of entertainment surrounded by food booths at the pavilion and Kailua HCC would enter a mounted unit, a float, or a decorated vehicle in this annual event. Having developed a talent for float building and mounted units, and inspired by James K. Trask during his last year as club president, the Kailua HCC founded the Prince Kuhio Parade in 1964 and the first parade committee included members Eleanor Santos, Daisy McKeague, Ellen Freitas, Charlotte Kai, George Gomes, Edward Tolbert, Louis K. Mahoe, William Cahill, Albert Hussey, and

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David Peterson. It is apparent that through their promotional efforts and leadership, much of the know-how have transcended to the rest of the club members as the committee membership took shape annually to perpetuate this outstanding project that would eventually go far beyond the boundaries of the Kailua community in the future and depicting the many talents and interests of Prince Kuhio as the parade theme, such as “Kuhio the Statesman;” “Kuhio the Sportsman,” Kuhio the Conservationist,” etc. The most noted designer of the annual entry of club floats was member Na’i Doo, who produced winners in many parades. The Kailua HCC had eventually become float builders for the Oahu Council, the Kamehameha Day Celebrations Commission, the Lions International, and the Aloha Week Festival on Oahu Island collectively for over 25 years. It has also entered decorated vehicles, mounted units and pa’u units featuring club members in several of these parades.

The first Prince Kuhio Parade in 1964 was held in Kailua and included 39 entries; among them were Kailua HCC members Christopher B. Palikapu representing Prince Kuhio Kalanianaole, and Eleanor Santos representing Princess Elizabeth Kalanianaole as part of the royal court in the parade; AHCC President and Mrs. George Mills; Oahu Council President and Mrs. Isaac Smythe, Kailua HCC, Ewa HCC, Koolaupoko HCC, and Wahiawa HCC. The second Prince Kuhio Parade in 1965 featured Albert Kaaihili as Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaole, and Kalani E. McCandless as Princess Elizabeth Kahanu Kalanianaole. In 1965, several Kailua HCC women participated in the Outdoor Circle’s Pa’u Fashion Show held at the Dillingham estate in Mokuleia dressed in 20 yards of flowing satin and flower lei and paraded on their mounts before a grand audience. The July 4th 1967 Parade in Kailua was a show stopper, and among the many winners in various categories the Kailua HCC pa’u riders, highlighting members Sandy Young and Ellen Freitas, won first place in the mounted unit category. By 2004, the July 4th Parade grew to 94 participating units and the festivities after the parade had grown as well that lasted to 4 pm. In the Aloha Week Parade of 1970, member Charles Keliihoomalu was the reigning king throughout the festival. By 1971 a few of
the club’s women had become a part of the Koolauloa HCC annual fashion show at the Kuilima Resort as guest models of Hawaiian monarchical attire they either sewed or borrowed from museums, or owned family heirlooms. This was a fashion parade that meandered among the round tables of luncheon guests so that all would appreciate the ornate and intricate workmanship of the holoku. The 1971 Prince Kuhio Day Parade featured for the first time ever a couple -- Kailua HCC 1st Vice Pres. Alexander Kekahuna and his wife the club’s Historian, Clara Kauipakoa Kekahuna depicting Prince Kuhio and Princess Elizabeth.

The succeeding Prince Kuhio Day parades were held primarily on the windward side. The pa’u costumes and page banners with leather accessories for the horses were specially made for showcasing the eight islands. Eventually, the parade expanded and was taken on the road to other districts of Oahu Island such as Wahiawa, Nanakuli, Hawaii Kai, Kalihi and Kaneohe. In 1972, the Oahu Council under the leadership of then president Mary K. Robinson, was impressed to take over the Prince Kuhio Day Parade as a council program, and purchased from the Kailua HCC the pa’u costumes, banners, and other rider and horse apparel for $1200. The Kuhio Day Parade was held in Kaneohe in 1973, and member Henry Maunakea depicted Prince Kuhio Kalanianaole. The 1975 Hawaii Kai parade showcased member Sam Malina depicting the prince in member Na’i Doo’s masterpiece float where Sam stood in an ornately carved portrait with the velvety appearance of red ti leaves as backdrop that took onlookers’ breath away—“…one of which was a stunning ‘living portrait’ of Prince Kuhio” (said the Honolulu Advertiser). One of the rewards for winning in the float division of that parade was to enter the Kamehameha Day Parade under the banner of the Oahu Council; a few clubs including Kailua HCC took such an honor.

In Kailua is a state and national historic site named Ulupo Heiau that is believed to have been built by menehune passing pohaku from distant Kualoa and even farther from Ewa in the 11th century; a platform type of an ancient pohaku temple with graduating terraces that surround its 140 x 180 foot frame, and the northeast corner stands 30 feet at its highest point. This site is accessible to the general public through an easement of the neighboring YMCA. In the late 1960s, the Kailua HCC wanted to restore the Ulupo Heiau but was not favored by the Kailua Outdoor Circle or the state in this offering and so this idea went dormant. The club then turned its attention to Mokapu in 1976, where the largest ancestral sand dune burial site is recorded in Hawaii history; and which was in jeopardy due to plans to expand and upgrade the golf course and other...
grounds occupied by the U.S. Marine Corps Air Station. A military personnel, sensitive to Hawaiian preservation and history, provided the club with sufficient information and documentation that allowed the club to successfully stop further construction plans in that area. In 1977 the club’s project coordinator Joseph Motta, a retired Marine and familiar with the site, created a pohaku monument recognizing this historical site, which was ceremoniously placed on a slope below the officers club overlooking the easily recognizable sand dune burial site beyond the old golf course.

In 1987, the club once again focused its attention to Ulupo Heiau and, with member and project coordinator Charles Rose at the helm assisted by member Martha Yent, an archaeologist by profession who was the key player in the steady pursuit of this venture on the state level, the club’s work force of members and their teen children took the liberty of cleaning the top and sides of the heiau while taking photographs of the before and after of the site. Its report presented to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources proved successful and a memorandum of agreement was signed on 2 December 1987 by then president Chris Faria and the state DLNR representatives to become the caretaker and curator of this site. The DLNR during the succeeding years has sponsored annual interpretive and curator workshops on the major islands, and Kailua HCC has participated in this venture providing its report on improvements and activities of Ulupo Heiau.

On a zero budget but with kokua from the men of OCCC, their trucks and tree cutting machinery came to the site to help members cut and haul off several banyan and ohai trees that were threatening the foundation of the heiau.

The neighboring YMCA provided the club access to the base of the heiau for cleaning and maintenance. This cleanup activity extended onto the YMCA’s property much to their appreciation. The YMCA allowed visitors to see the magnitude of the heiau from the vantage point of the 30x120 ft grassy lawn abutting the heiau base maintained by club members and other community groups.
The first lo’i of at least five types of kalo donated by member Jack Montgomery of Kaneohe were planted in 1987 but flooding swept away most of the crop; so the second lo’i was planted further down the YMCA property but to the side of harms way, and each harvest was good, providing enough rootstock and leaves to prepare pa’ina in annual celebrations of the club at the site. The third and current site of the lo’i was planted even further away and out of sight but a few feet down the foot path that led to the northeast edge of Kawainui. After the initial clearing of the historic site, the state was able to remap the heiau by locating and identifying old as well as new spots on and near the site. The club was a state finalist in the 1988 Take Pride in America Awards Recognition Program, for which Charles Rose is credited for spearheading this entry. In April 1989, Kailua HCC received a certificate of recognition at the 13th annual First Lady’s Outstanding Volunteer Award, presented by Mrs. John (Lynne) Waihee. Spearheaded by member Ron Jackson, students of the East-West Center of the University of Hawaii at Manoa visited Ulupo Heiau as an educational project; and after the tour the club provided lunch, funded by the Center, and the students were entertained by the members.

The club was honored in May 1989 in the governor’s office for outstanding public stewardship of natural and cultural resources in windward Oahu. As an educational and informational piece, interpretive signage was installed at the front of the heiau and a dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, 12 March 1994 with Gov. John Waihee presenting a commendation message to the club. For the next ten years, the members and other partnering organizations in the community worked hard to restore and maintain the heiau and the lo’i (which has since been moved nearer to the Kawainui in the distant back of the heiau) to the satisfaction of the state and county. In fact, on Wednesday, 18 February 1998, the City & County of Honolulu presented a certificate of merit to the Kailua HCC for their tireless work in preserving the Ulupo Heiau.
Kailua HCC participates with a Kawainui coalition in an effort to restore and maintain the Kawainui area as a historical site, which is adjacent to Ulupo Heiau. Club member Charles Burrows PhD has taken this program under his capable leadership, with the labor force of members from Kailua HCC and ‘Ahahui Malama I Ka Lokahi and other people from the community, and has additionally pursued restoring native plants along the shorelines of Kawainui and especially at the historic site Na Pohaku o Hauwahine located on the northwest side of Kawainui; and ridding the marsh of the alien lavender water hyacinth. Kailua HCC is also participating with Ameron Inc as partners in the restoration and maintenance of the Pahukini Heiau located mauka at Kapaa Quarry. Interpretive signage was installed at that site, again with club member Martha Yent’s professional assistance. The annual ho’ike at Ulupo Heiau that began the summer of 2002 has been a popular club fundraiser that draws about 700 people to enjoy na mea Hawaii demonstrations, mele and pa’ina, and hands-on participation like making Hawaiian lei and implements to wear or take home.
The annual Makahiki that began in December 2002 is usually precluded with cleaning the grounds by members, the women of WCCC and ‘Ahahui Malama I Ka Lokahi; followed by a ceremonial march from the Kawainui levee to Ulupo Heiau with appropriate protocol and a program, and ending with a pa‘ina. Club members take turns as docent of the heiau when visiting groups come for a tour. For several years, the Hawaiian martial arts hui Pa Ku‘i A Holo partnered with Kailua HCC in the maintenance and preservation of Ulupo Heiau during Saturday workdays. They also extended their talents in ancient protocol, displaying and demonstrating warring implements, and providing manpower in the annual Ho‘ike. Replacing Pa Ku‘i A Holo who has moved on to other challenging opportunities, ‘Ahahui Malama I Ka Lokahi has become the new partner with Kailua HCC in the restoration efforts at Ulupo Heiau; and club members in turn have contributed their time and effort in the restoration of Kawainui.

**SCHOLARSHIP**

Since its inception, the Kailua HCC has awarded many educational scholarships to students of Hawaiian ancestry within Kailua and other communities. Its fundraising activities were primarily for this purpose. Usually presented during the installation dinner or Christmas party, or during a special event held at Ulupo Heiau in early summer were the scholarship awards to the students that were selected by the Scholarship Committee.

In September 1966 when John McCandless was club president, the choral group produced a scholarship fundraiser, “Muumuu Mele,” at the new and popular Sea Life Park that highlighted Bill Kaiwa and the Kahauanu Lake Trio. Nearly 400 tickets were sold and among the crowd attending from 6pm to midnight were notables Chief Justice William Richardson, House representative Andy Anderson, City Council representatives Herman Lemke and Kekoa Kaapu, and Association Pres. George Mills.
On Sunday, 2 March 1969, Kailua HCC sponsored a scholarship fundraiser at Kailua High School Gym that was a show-stopper including talents that drew the crowd – Don Ho, top of the billboard of entertainment, who entertained at Duke Kahanamoku’s; The Surfers, who entertained at Canton Puka; and Buddy Fo and his group, to name a few. Admission to the show, which started at 4:00pm that lasted two hours, was only $3.00 per person!

A brainstorm of then club president Whitney Anderson to raise scholarship funds, in the summer of 1970 the women made pickled onions and the men huli huli chicken at the park near Kailua Times Supermarket. It was truly a rotisserie type over the hot coals rather than the grill type of today that people labeled “huli huli.” Because the spit started before the crack of dawn, people in the apartments across the street caught the delicious aroma of the golden birds as their wakeup call, and would be first in line for purchase of a mouthwatering chicken or plate lunch before they had breakfast.

Another brainstorm of Whitney that started in June 1971 during Father’s Day weekend, the club had its annual steak dinner fundraiser at Lanikai Community Center where steaks were grilled on-site with all the fixings of an outdoor barbeque that were served to 300 plus people under a big tent, and big-ticket entertainers and music artists in the state donated their time and talent to the cause. Its educational activities for the membership in perpetuating things Hawaiian included aho net fishing, lauhala weaving, the Hawaiian language, making hula implements and learning chants using those implements, feather lei making, raising kalo, interpretive program of historic sites, the hula etc. In fact, it was an annual tradition for the members to retreat on Labor Day weekend at Dr. George and Bobbi Mills oceanfront estate in Punaluu, because that was the start of lobster season. The men would learn net fishing under the skilled masters of the Mills family, and what they caught was what everyone ate.

Education workshops in 2006 were funded by a $2500 grant from OHA. One of them was a haku mele held on 22 August 2006 led by club member and kumu hula Malia Bird Helela (her Merrie Monarch photo is whitewashed in the background below). The result of this workshop was outstanding, and is a part of the club’s memoirs:
E HO'I KE ALOHA I KAILUA
Hanohano Nu‘uanu i ka ua Ki‘owao
I ka wai hulialana a ka lani
Ku i ka lani na mauna kolu o ‘Olomana
He ho‘ailona ia o ka home aloha ‘ia
Aloha ‘ia o Maunawili e na lani
Ho‘omaluhia i na ulu o ka ‘aina
He ‘aina la’a o Ulupo i ka wai a Kane
Na Hauwahine a pale i na wai nui
Nui na waiwai kau Pamoah
Ka ‘ani ka la hiki ola i ka poli o Kalama
Lamalama Mokapu i ka po anu
Hea mai o Ku‘au e ho‘i i ka pono
E ho‘i ke aloha i Kailua
Aia ka ha‘ina i ko makou aloha ‘aina.

[Translation]
LET LOVE RETURN TO KAILUA
1. Glorious is Nu‘uanu in the Ki‘owao rain
   In the cleansing waters of the heavens
2. The three peaks of ‘Olomana stand in the heavens
   They are a symbol of a beloved home
3. Maunawili is beloved of the heavenly ones
   The riches of the land are held protected
4. Ulupo is a sacred land rich with the waters of Kane
   It is Hauwahine who will protect the great waters
5. Great are the resources placed at Pamoah
   The life giving sun beckons in the embrace of Kalama
6. Mokapu is a beacon in the bitter night
   Ku‘au calls us to return to the proper ways
7. Let love return to Kailua
   The story is found in our love of the land.

Background photo (R) is of Malia Bird Helelā in hula competition.

Notes: As we discussed places in Kailua that held special meaning to us, a natural order became apparent. We decided to follow the path of fresh water as it flows from the heavens and makes its way to the sea. The attempt was to link the last words of each verse to the beginning words of the following verse. This style is sometimes referred to as linked terminals and is seen in many mele.

First verse: It is appropriate that we begin with the summit of Nuuanu where the waterfalls of Koolaupoko filters through many streams that head to the ocean through Kailua providing sustenance to the lands along the way. The pure water of the heavens is symbolic of our kupuna, like Dr. Chuck Burrows, as they often cleanse our spirits with their knowledge and experience. Ka wai hulialana is a veiled reference to Lanihuli.

Second verse: As people return home to Kailua from Honolulu, one of the first sights to greet them are the three peaks of Olomana. We breathe a sigh of relief as we pass through the Pali tunnels and see home laid out before us.

Third verse: Liliuokalani is one of the heavenly ones who loved Maunawili. She was inspired to compose “Aloha Oe” at the Queen’s Retreat there. Na ulu o ka aina refers to the lush and fertile growth in the valley. We acknowledge the Paikuli-Stride ohana for their work in restoring ho‘i kalo there and promoting ‘ai pono.

Fourth verse: We pay respect to Ulupo as a maele heiau and refer to the many springs found there. Na wai nui, of course, refers to Kawainui. But wai also implies the values of conservation and stewardship. Hauwahine is the protector of Kawainui and an inspiration to us all.

Fifth verse: Kakuhihewa is honored with mention of his cultural center at Pamoah. When watching the sun rise at Kalama beach, Mokapu and Ahalal reach out on either side of the Kailua Bay and resemble protective arms.

Sixth verse: Mokapu is a sacred place which historian Muriel Seto claims to be traditionally part of the Kailua ahupua‘a. The bitter night is a reference to the military occupation of Mokapu. The annual observances of Makahiki by the Camvel ohana serve as powerful reminders for us to strive for pono in all that we do.

Seventh verse: By discussing and celebrating these beloved sites in Kailua, we are allowing our aloha to dwell there. We must take this feeling a step further and grutly honor the land by practicing the lifestyles of aloha ‘aina and malama ‘aina as we do here at Ulupo, Na Pohaku o Hauwahine, Maunawili and Mokapu.

It has been such a blessing to gather these flowers of expression and haku this mele with wonderful people. Mahalo nui to all who participated. Kailua has many more mele to be found.

O wau no me ka ha‘aha‘a, Malia Bird Helelā.

OTHER ACTIVITIES
Kailua HCC has traditionally participated in other Hawaiian civic club activities in the organization. One such activity, the annual Holoku Ball of the Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu, is such a gala affair that always makes news in the local newspapers. In 1965, attending this scholarship fundraiser was Whitney and Hannie Anderson, and they were one of the fabulous few that were highlighted. Their attire was the traditional Hawaiian costume, Hannie in a blue brocade holoku with strands of pikake lei; and Whitney was in white with a
red cummerbund and maile lei. One of the hardest issues to embrace was the high school dropout problems, and Kailua HCC was one of two clubs who were recognized in 1965 for addressing this issue in the community.

Among other activities the choral group made a hefty sum for the club doing Christmas caroling along hotel row in Waikiki. There were six club members who were serving in various capacities on the Association level – Whitney Anderson as second vice president, Dot Uchima as recording secretary, Hannie Anderson as convention committee chair, Joan Malama as education committee chair, Hardy Hutchinson as public relations chair, and Dicky McGurn as golfing chair of the convention committee. Papa Louis K. Mahoe, founder of the Kailua HCC, passed away in 1974 and was included in the memorial ceremony of the Association’s 1975 convention held during 30 January – 1 February 1975. On Sunday, 4 August 1974, Kailua HCC sponsored a testimonial for Danny Kaleikini in a musical way and the incredible entertainment lineup in his honor was produced by Bud Dant of the Association of Hawaiian Music, directed by Zulu, and was attended by 2,000 paying guests at $6 per at the Hawaiian luncheon; and that being election year, the politicians swarmed this gala event held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. Danny attended in glory.

During his tenure as Association president, Whitney instigated the creation of an Association newsletter with member Mikilani Ho as the brainchild and she circulated its first issue in 1976. He also succeeded in having the AHCC convention held out of state for the first time. Held at Disney Hotel in Anaheim in 1981, a delegation of 1200 came from Hawaii, and 2600 attended the Aha Mele – surely most of them were Hawaiians who have relocated on the continent and were hungry for events like this! Change was not accepted easily however as there was enough nay sayers to rock the floor at convention when approval was necessary, but the majority ayes won the vote for having the convention outside of Hawai‘i nei, and like pioneering a new frontier this was the start of many new and innovative ideas for future conventions, such as a convention at sea 23 years later in 2004, when Maui Council experienced tremendous opposition from a few clubs but again, the majority won the vote in 2002 and 2003 to have the convention on NCL Pride of Aloha. The members of KHCC were not disappointed; they came away with a new and rewarding experience having seen the ancient islands that year from the vantage point of the sea and witnessed first-hand the ravaging mark of Pele as she spewed her molten lava into the sea as the ship made an exceptional full circle for the benefit of the Hawaiian delegation on board and to allow all an opportunity to view that spectacle from any deck or porthole.

The 1979 Association convention was dedicated to three prominent individuals, member James K. Trask being one of them. Alii Sunday is a birthday anniversary celebration of the monarchy at Kawaiahao Church, and Kailua HCC is among other clubs that attend in their club colors. The club also participates in annual memorial services of ali‘i who are entombed at Mauna‘ala in Nuuanu Valley.

The morning of Saturday, 23 January 1988, Kailua HCC celebrated the written agreement as curator of Ulupo Heiau with the State Department of Land and Natural Resources that included a ceremony and a pa‘ina. That afternoon for the first time in 168 years Hawaiians have come together as a united people, as Kailua HCC joined other Hawaiian organizations to celebrate Hoolokahi – Hawaiian Unity Day – the final event for Hoolako -- Year of the Hawaiian -- at the Aloha Stadium where each unit, dressed in full color, marched onto the field to the beat of a band; and the stage had ongoing entertainment including the largest
group of halau hula ever assembled in recorded Hawaiian history that pleased the crowd on the bleachers for five hours. There were food booths and much excitement for all who attended.

The club was recognized many times by private, civic, county, and state agencies. Among them were: in 1989 Menehune Marchers that is part of an international volksport organization; on 15 March 1996 Governor Ben Cayetano’s Kilohana Award for the club’s outstanding volunteerism; in 1997 the Oahu Council’s certificate of appreciation for outstanding work in the community and civic club activities; in 1998 the City Council of Honolulu for the club’s 40th anniversary in outstanding civic service. The club conducted for the first time a benefit dinner at the officer’s club at Kaneohe Marine Corps, Mokapu on 31 August 1996 in memory of member Joseph Motta, a retired Marine veteran, who past away in July.

The club participated in Oahu Council’s annual ho’ike held a first Sunday of a month since its inception and had a food booth for a fundraiser. The council provided entertainment, while other vendors brought their arts and crafts to sell on the grounds of Bishop Museum during the event. Eventually, the ho’ike moved to Kapiolani Park where it was set up in conjunction with the Kuhio Day Parade that took advantage of a greater audience including parade watchers and sunbathers from Kuhio Beach at Waikiki.

During her tenure as president, Kuulei Laughlin promoted the club’s first ho’ike fundraiser, chaired by Chuck Burrows, that was held in summer 2004 at Ulupo Heiau where the day was filled with ancient protocol and opening ceremony, hula, music, demonstrations, Hawaiian food, tours, and exhibits. Experts in Hawaiian culture and arts were on hand to share their knowledge and provide hands-on educational experience to participants throughout the day. This event has reaped as much as 800 attendees. She was also successful in having two nominees supported by the club in the Association’s Outstanding Awards at its annual convention: In 2002, the Pualeilani Award for the Outstanding HCC Family went to Ed and Dot Uchima Ohana for their long time service to the club, the community, Oahu Council, and the Association of HCCs. In 2005, the Association’s Kakoo o Kalanianaole Award for the Outstanding Service to the Hawaiian community went to Mark Stride, who malama the ‘aina in raising kalo and other Hawaiian traditional food crops, has been instrumental in donating traditional foods and cultural education on the ‘aina and at many club functions. In its earlier years of operation, the club obtained an EIN number with the federal and state governments in order to report its fiscal affairs. President Kuulei applied for 501(c)(3) status during her term of office; and as of 23 September 2005, the Kailua HCC attained its nonprofit status with the federal and state governments. By the way, other recipients of distinguishing awards given by the Association went to members: Charles L. Rose – Ka Pookela o Kuhio Award in 1996; Ronald Jackson - Kakoo o Kalanianaole Award in 1999; Charles L. Rose - Kalanianaole Award in 2000; Charles P. Burrows - Ka Pookela o Kuhio Award in 2001. Also of note, Kuulei Laughlin was one of the Hawaii Maoli Inc. staff members (Account/Clerk), when that organization began its operations in 2001.

At sunrise on 15 May 2005, Kailua HCC participated in the annual commemorative ceremony in honor of all fallen warriors from the time when Kamehameha I took his stand to conquer Oahu Island at the Koolau Pali lookout; and through the wars around the world where many of the soldiers of Hawaiian ancestry lost their lives. Many hui from Oahu and other neighbor islands attended this solemn experience.
bringing with them mele and oli, and hookupu. In attendance was “High Chief” Akau, his advisors and warriors who came from Hawaii Island as keepers of the Puukohola Heiau to preside over the event. Kumu hula John Lake was the master of ceremonies, and his halau were the attendants that orchestrated the sunrise service. There were approximately 300 people in attendance. It was announced that in August 2005, an annual ceremony at the Puukohola Heiau at Kawaihæ, Hawaii Island will include the installation of the succeeding “High Chief” Kahiapo.

On 11 November 2003, club members Chuck Burrows, a commissioner, and Charlie Lehuaakona Isaacs, an employee of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC), took part in the transfer of Kahoolawe to the State from the U.S. Navy. The KIRC sponsors the Kahoolawe land rehabilitation program and offers Hawaiian cultural and educational organizations to participate in its effort to restore vegetation on this arid island. In 2006 the Kailua HCC participated in the continuing Protect Kahoolawe campaign to clean the desolate areas of the island, create an irrigation system, and plant sun-loving vegetation that would hopefully take root to prevent further erosion.

A few club members took a trip to Kahoolawe Island on 14-17 August 2006; they were full days - from 5:00am to 9:00pm. It was organized by Chuck Burrows. Others in the group were from Ahahui Malama I Ka Lokahi. The purpose of the trip was to learn about native landscape restoration (including soil erosion control measures, irrigation techniques, and planting of native plants) and how this might be applicable to our work at Kawainui. We took the KIRC boat from Kihei Boat Launch to Hanakanaea at the west end of the island. We bunked in the former U.S.Navy quarters. During the day we visited various archaeological sites and project areas on the island, including the voyaging heiau at Kealaikahiki and the rain koa at Lua Makika where a ho'okupu was offered. Our project was to plant rows of a'ali'i and lay irrigation lines alongside the plants. Water was fed from large water tanks. The irrigation system was of particular interest to the crew from Ahahui who are working on landscape restoration at Na Pohaku located along the Kawainui in Kailua, Oahu Island. In the evening we discussed various topics with the KIRC staff. The weather was hot, dry, windy, and dusty, but the food was amazing (KIRC has their own cook) and the company was great - a diverse, fun group of people. It was a wonderful experience!

As the Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club forges on toward developing new and innovative practices in traditions and cultural preservation; and maintaining the successful programs that have been in existence since decades ago, its history will be posted as a subsequent but consecutive segment of this document.
### Presidents of the Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club and Years of Tenure

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>President</th>
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<td>James K. Trask</td>
<td>(1958 – 1964)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sam Aki</td>
<td>(1969)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wing Chow</td>
<td>(1976; 1978 – 1979)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hardy Hutchinson</td>
<td>(1977)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Faria</td>
<td>(1987)</td>
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<td>Flossy Williamson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minoo Ellison</td>
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Compiled 2006-07 by Dot Uchima, KHCC Historian