

Lau Family Association 劉氏宗親會

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Mission: (1) To complete the Lau Family Genealogy, (2) to raise funds for the use of the Association for charitable purposes, (3) to give aid and assistance to needy and infirm members of the Association, and to aid the surviving spouse and children of a deceased member, (4) to encourage all members to take an active part in the civic, social, and moral welfare of our community, (5) to encourage younger generations to learn and use the Chinese language, (6) to encourage all members to associate with one another with respect and love at all times, and (7) to encourage all to know and commemorate historical dates and preserve and perpetuate important traditions.

History: The original club was called the Kai Kok Club, and was formed during the 1930s by emigrants to Hawaii from Kai Kok village (*Xijiaoxiang* 谿角鄉), located near Shekki town (*Shiqizhen* 石岐鎮) in the Lung Doo (*Longdu* 隆都) subdistrict of Zhongshan county, in Guangdong province. Records indicate that the earliest Lau in Guangdong, named Lau Siuhung, settled in this village in the early 12th century. It is estimated that hundreds of thousands of his descendants are now scattered throughout the southern Chinese provinces and elsewhere.



Sources: UCS publications and correspondence with Amy and Mabel Lau.

Activities When the Kai Kok Club in Hawaii was first organized, its members were very active. Regular meetings were held at the Sheung Fat Grocery owned by Mr. Lau Chong Chor, on Maunakea Street. However, from the 1960s to 1980, Club members grew inactive. Only one gathering was held each year on the day of the Ching Ming Festival (*Qingmingjie* 清明節), when a few members and their families would gather at the graves to pay respect to their ancestors.

During the latter part of 1980, the younger generations of the Lau Clan, mostly of the 22nd and 23rd generations, gathered together and were instrumental in reactivating the Club. However, they changed its name to The Lau Family Association, with new by-laws, which limited Association membership to those with the surname Lau (the most common spelling variations of the Chinese character 劉 are Lau, Liu, Low, and Lowe).

Membership:

The Association currently has about 480 members.

Association presidents

- 1981 Paul C P Lau
- 1982 Kwock Nam Lau
- 1983 Hin Chiu Lau
- 1984 Henry C F Lau
- 1985 Thomas B Lau
- 1986 Walter T Y Lau
- 1987 Gayle J Lau
- 1988 Eugene Liu
- 1989 Elizabeth C Lau
- 1990 Tim Hung Lau
- 1991 Franklin Y P Lau
- 1992 Daniel W C Lau
- 1993 Yan Tuck Lau
- 1994 Gordon G J Lau
- 1995 William S L Lau
- 1996 Patrick K.L. Lau
- 1997 Stuart C. Lau
- 1998 Phillip M.K. Lau
- 1999–00 Wilson W.O. Lau
- 2001 Robert Y.K. Lau
- 2002 Samuel Lok On Lau
- 2003 Amy P.M. Lau



All pictures were taken at annual banquets of the Association, and were provided by Mabel Lau.