

KAMAAINA KOLUMN

By GRACE TOWER WARREN

With the coming of the 40th anniversary celebration on March 11 of the Uluniu Women's swimming club, many recollections of the early days of the club are being brought to mind.

The well known Waikiki landmark was organized in 1909 shortly after Alexander Hume Ford organized the Outrigger Canoe club next door, and it was largely through Mr. Ford's efforts that it came about.

MRS. FRANCIS MILLS SWANZY'S "pink house on the hill" was the locale of the first meeting of a group of women who originally planned to make their organization a women's auxiliary to the men's Outrigger club. Later, however, they decided on the name, Uluniu, which means growing coconut.

Mrs. Swanzy, best known to kamaainas as Julie Judd Swanzy, was the first president of the group and remained president for many years. Her enthusiasm, executive ability and social and cultural background combined to achieve a successfully coordinated club.

Another prominent and efficient president, Mrs. Alfred L. Castle, followed Mrs. Swanzy, and third in line was Mrs. Allan M. Nowell, who incidentally visited Hawaii last summer after several years on the mainland.

About the time of Mrs. Nowell's term of office came the depression. Membership dropped off and attendance was not too good.

The directors were discouraged and a few even advocated turning over the treasury balance, if any, to the Outrigger club, and disbanding.

The majority, however, did not approve of giving the club up, and in 1932 Mrs. Arthur L. Andrews was elected president. She has been in office ever since. Members will not let her go.

MRS. ANDREWS REALIZED what an asset the Uluniu was to a community and her energy, perseverance and tenacity of purpose pulled the club up "by its own bootstraps."

First she started a membership drive, eliminating the initiation fee for the duration of the drive. This was a bargain, and women like bargains.

Membership grew as more women discovered the convenience of picnic luncheons or suppers with a maid to wash the dishes.

She planned bridge teas to finance a large modern refrigerator which she saw as a great need, and in addition the parties brought many members together to strengthen the club.

On another occasion through Mrs. Andrew's managing, a large order of silver plated flatware was added to the closet and additional

crockery was purchased. Also gas plates appeared in the kitchen.

During 1948 between 25,000 and 26,000 visits have been made by members and guests. There are 600 regular members, 50 service members and 50 to 75 unclassified. Presently there is a waiting list of 625 and it is planned to increase the senior membership list to 650.

ALSO AMONG THE PLANS for the year are additions to the guestmen's department and the laundry facilities.

The club prides itself that it has never raised its dues from the small sum of \$10 a year.

Some of the improvements which the directors hope to make will be inspected at the 40th anniversary celebration and if cash gifts are liberal a flag raising may be added to the tea and social hour.

All those planning to attend are asked to notify Miss Edith Cooper, who is at the club every day but Monday.



MRS. PAUL DONALD HIGGINS was Miss Joan Elizabeth Stephens before her marriage last Monday at Sacred Hearts church, Punaohou. —Salart photo.

Mrs. A. H. Waterhouse Honored on Birthday

LIHUE, Kauai, Feb. 5—A family dinner honoring Mrs. A. H. Waterhouse of Koloa on her birthday was given at the Green Garden in Hanapepe last week. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Watts of Koloa, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Waterhouse of Kekaha and seven grandchildren.