

Hawaiian Royalty and the Craft

No history of Freemasonry in Hawaii would be complete without some reference to the "**Craft and the Royal Connection.**" In the days of the Hawaiian Kingdom, a special relationship was enjoyed between Freemasonry and the Monarchy, including some men closely associated with the Monarchy. This favorable situation was due to several members of the Hawaiian Royalty being members of the Craft, and some Caucasian Freemasons who had settled in the islands and married into one of the Royal families.

PRINCE LODGE KAMEHAMEHA V, fifth ruler of the Hawaiian kingdom, was the first native Hawaiian to become a Freemason. On February 27, 1853, he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Hawaiian Lodge No. 21.

PRINCE WILLIAM PITT LELEIOHOKU, younger brother of King David Kalakaua was a member of Hawaiian Lodge No. 21. The young Prince was appointed heir to the throne by David Kalakaua four days after Kalakaua became King. Prince Leleiohoku died at the early age of 23. As a result of his death, his older sister Lydia became the heir apparent to the throne. So when King David Kalakaua died, the reign of Lydia Lili'uokalani began. She was the last Monarch of the Hawaiian Kingdom; Lili'uokalani was deposed in January 1893.

ALEXANDER LIHOLIHO, KAMEHAMEHA IV, fourth ruler of the Hawaiian Kingdom was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on February 8, 1857 in Lodge Le Progres de l'Oceanie No. 124, and served as Master of the Lodge in 1859, 1861, and 1862. He was the King of Hawaii from January 11, 1855 until his death on November 30, 1863. After having been made a Master Mason, His Majesty invited the Lodge brethren to a light dinner at the Royal Palace. During his entire Masonic career, Kamehameha IV was the ruling Monarch of the Kingdom of Hawaii.

JOHN O. DOMINIS, Consort of Queen Lili'uokalani, served in high government posts under Kamehameha IV, Kamehameha V, and King David Kalakaua. In 1862 he married Lydia Lili'uokalani, thus becoming the brother-in-law of David Kalakaua who later became the King. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Lodge Le Progres de l'Oceanie No. 124 on August 15, 1857. He served as Master of the Lodge in 1863, 1864, and 1868. Dominis died seven months after Lili'uokalani's accession to the throne. Among the many things Lili'uokalani was noted for was her exceptional musical talent. "ALOHA OE" (Farewell to Thee), known the world over, was written by Queen Lili'uokalani.

KING DAVID KALAKAUA, was the seventh and last King of Hawaii. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Lodge Le Progres de l'Oceanie No. 124 on July 28, 1859. He served as Worshipful Master in 1876, about two years after he became King on February 12, 1876. He was active in Masonry right up to the time of his death on January 20, 1891, a day or so after he became a member of the Shrine in San Francisco. After (the present) 'Iolani Palace was completed, a Masonic banquet was arranged to coincide with St. John's Day, December 27, 1882. It was the first official banquet held in 'Iolani Palace. His Majesty used the membership roster of Lodge Le Progres de l'Oceanie and Hawaiian Lodge for his guest list, in hosting the banquet. It was a gala affair, with the music provided by the Royal Hawaiian Band under the direction of its founder and world-renowned conductor, Henry Berger. The Hawaiian National Anthem, "HAWAII PONO'I" which is still sung today at State and municipal functions was composed jointly by David Kalakaua who wrote the lyrics, and Professor Henry Berger who wrote the music.

PRINCE DAVID KAWANANAKOA, was proclaimed a prince of the realm in 1883 by King Kalakaua, however the title could not be inherited. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Lodge Le Progres de l'Oceanie on August 14, 1900. He received an extensive formal education in Hawaii, California and England. He traveled to many of the Royal Courts in Europe. Prince Kawanakoa was a member of one of the teams that went to the United States to plead Lili'uokalani's case (for restoration of the throne) after she was deposed as Queen of Hawaii.

ARCHIBALD SCOTT CLEGHORN, was Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Hawaiian Lodge. He was the husband of Princess Likelike, younger sister of King Kalakaua and Lili'uokalani; and the father of Princess Kaiulani who was heir apparent to the throne. He had been known as the father of Hawaii's Park System as a result of his designing several parks including the famous Thomas Square and the Royal Mausoleum.

CURTISS P. IAUKEA, although not of royal lineage had a long and distinguished career in the service of the different governments of Hawaii, starting with the reign of King Kalakaua, continuing through the days of the Provisional Government, the Republic of Hawaii, and lastly with the Territorial Government of Hawaii, under the United States. During his illustrious career he served as Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs, special envoy to the Coronation of Czar Alexander III, accompanied Queen Kapiolani to the United States serving as her interpreter during a visit with President and Mrs. Grover Cleveland, and also at the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria in London in 1887. Some years later he attended Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee as a Representative of the Republic of Hawaii. He was a one-man diplomatic corps for Hawaii. Curtiss P. Iaukea was made a Master Mason in Pacific Lodge No. 822, under the Grand Lodge of Scotland prior to its becoming Honolulu Lodge No. 409 under California.