

# Fire Up the Tiki Torches; It's Time for a Luau!

By Sophie Braccini

With stars in his eyes, Ken Tom, the vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce of Moraga, recalls the luaus at his Maui home. "We had many festive occasions at our house," he remembers, "lots of music, great food, laughter, dancers and good company." So when the Chamber looked to update its annual fund raising event, Tom naturally proposed the familiar party theme.

Moraga residents may remember the Chamber's annual Stampede BBQ, which has been shelved this year in favor of an event at which neighbors and families can all join in the fun. The Luau will be held on Saturday, August 25, from 5 to 10 PM on the field of the Old Moraga Ranch, across from Safeway on School Street. A stage will be built for the musicians and dancers, and tables for 500 guests will be set. Diners will be treated to an authentic Hawaiian buffet prepared by Kauai Abreu Ohana, formerly from Kauai, and Gourmet Bistro of Moraga. It will include Kalua Pork, Lomi Salmon,



Macadamia Mahi-mahi, steamed rice, Poi, sweet Haupia and many other delights. Guests will enjoy two hours of live Hawaiian and Tahitian entertainment by Kamaile and Da Island Way.

Other activities include learning how to make an authentic flower lei. A raffle will conclude the evening. The first prize is a trip for two to Hawaii for a 5 day stay at the famous Waikiki Beach Marriott, and includes \$600 credit toward air fare. Raffle tickets will be sold the night of the event.

This event is the main fund raiser of the Chamber of Commerce of Moraga. The money raised allows the Chamber to initiate and support such events as the Season of

Lights, Shop Moraga First, the Merchant's Fair, the Energy and Safety Fair, the Emergency Preparedness Plan for Businesses and the Farmers' Market. Ken Tom invites you to, "Come and participate with your family in an event like our town has never seen before. Have fun and support your business community."

Get more information and tickets online at [www.moragaluau.com](http://www.moragaluau.com) or at the UPS store in the Moraga Center. Advanced tickets are \$45 for adults and \$10 for children 6-12 years old, and respectively \$50 and \$15 at the door. Children 5 and under party for free.

### Event Schedule:

- 5:00 PM – Lei-making (\$4/lei, ages 10+)
- 6:00 PM – No host bar with lei greetings
- 6:45 PM – Dinner served
- 7:45 PM – Entertainment by Kamaile Productions
- 8:45 PM - Entertainment by Da Island Ways

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