

Nā Leo O Nā Koa

(Voices of Warriors)



2004 Chapter Rating



Chartered January 27, 2000

*Newsletter of the Aloha Chapter,
An Affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America*

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September 2005

Four Chapters Joining for Big Event...

*MOAA Memorial Plaque Banquet Set For September 23rd;
Dedication at National Cemetery of the Pacific on September 24th*

Banquet open to first 50 members to sign up...

...Plaque dedication at Punchbowl open to all

Before the installation of the MOAA Memorial Plaque at Punchbowl on Saturday, September 24th, there will be a banquet to commemorate this event the evening before. The banquet takes place on Friday, September 23rd at 6:30pm at the 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Hall on 520 Kamoku Street, across from Iolani School. Ample free parking will be available at Ala Wai Elementary School on Hihwai Street, which is half a block away toward the Ala Wai Canal.

This banquet is being sponsored and paid for by the National HQ of MOAA and they have asked Aloha Chapter to host this event. As National has allocated significant funding for this banquet and because members of the Hawaii Chapter, Southern Nevada (Las Vegas) and El Paso (Texas) will also be there, we had to (See "*Banquet Preparations*," page 3)

An event of historic significance will be the dedication of the MOAA Memorial Plaque on Saturday, September 24 at the National Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl. The ceremony will start at 10:00 am. at the top of "Monument Walk" on the Diamond Head side of the cemetery. Col. Ron Buchert, USAF (Ret), National Board of Directors Chair for Councils and Chapters, will be the guest speaker. Members from the El Paso and Las Vegas chapters will be our guests at this event. The Hawaii Chapter has done an outstanding job in planning for this ceremony to insure that it will be a memorable occasion for all who attend. On the evening before, our chapter will host a dinner to celebrate this dedication (see separate article at left for details). We encourage all members to attend both activities as well as all Twinning events.

Aloha, Southern Nevada Twinning Program in High Gear

MOAA's only Twinning Program goes into full swing again in September with the arrival of 20 members and spouses of the Southern Nevada Chapter, located in Las Vegas, for a week's visit with members and spouses of Aloha Chapter. The Twinning Program, a concept "copied" from Lions Clubs International in 2001 by Charter President Les Ihara, was established by him with the Southern Nevada Chapter in close coordination with its then-President Jack Taylor. The inaugural visit was made by 11 members and spouses the Southern Nevada Chapter in September 2001 when they stayed at the Hale Koa Hotel and spend all week on Oahu, highlight of which was a with a joint chapter meeting attended by more than 75 MOAA members and spouses, including several local non-chapter MOAA members who were invited by MOAA.

Aloha Chapter's visit to Las Vegas was made in September 2003 the same week the UH Warriors Football Team played UNLV. Although the Warriors lost to UNLV, 18 chapter members and spouses had a wonderful time being hosted by members and spouses of the Southern Nevada Chapter.

This year begins the 2nd round of our Twinning Program on September 19th when those 20 Southern Nevada Chapter members and 12 Aloha chapter members and spouses spend 3 nights at Kilauea Military Camp (KMC), the (See "*Twinning Plans*," page 2)

President's Message

By Vernon Von

September promises to be a busy month. The dedication ceremony of the MOAA memorial plaque will take place on Sep 24 with a celebration dinner the night before (see separate articles this newsletter). We will kick off the "Give Me 10" recruiting campaign to recruit at least 10 new members by the end of the year (see article this newsletter). Our success in this recruitment effort may net our chapter some big bucks. So check your neighborhood and beat the bushes and let's see how successful we can be in recruiting new members.

The MOAA Council and Chapter Affairs Committee has announced the recipients of the 2004 Levels of Excellence Awards. Our Aloha Chapter was awarded the Four Star Level of Excellence for "above average performance." A big MAHALO to all of you for your participation and involvement in chapter activities and especially to past president Les Ihara for his leadership.

Did you know that the Honorable R. James Nicholson was confirmed by the Senate early this year as the Secretary of Veteran Affairs (cabinet level position)? He was in town the week of Aug 21 and brought the keynote address to members of the American Legion who were here for their 87^h convention. He also spoke at a luncheon hosted by Governor Lingle at Washington Place. With a budget of only \$72 billion, Sec. Nicholson must oversee and provide jobs programs for newly returned combat veterans, healthcare, disability compensation, home loan guarantees, educational assistance and other earned benefits. It's a huge job to look after about 25 million veterans who need care and counsel.

And remember, it's never too late to make a donation to the Aloha Chapter, MOAA Scholarship Fund.

Benefits Busters Back At It? Senior House leaders reportedly are considering a push for legislation this fall to cap spending on so-called "entitlement programs" - which by Congress' definition include military retired pay, survivor benefits, veterans benefits and TRICARE For Life. For more information, see www.moaa.org.



Twinning Plans (from Page 1)

joint service recreation center located in the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. It will be an activity-packed 3 days which includes guided tours throughout the still erupting Kilauea Volcano area and a circle-island tour, an all day tour of the many and varied sights unique to the Big Island.

The group returns to Honolulu on Thursday, the 22nd, and those from Las Vegas will be staying at the Hale Koa Hotel and go to their Luau that evening. Although all other activities of our Las Vegas friends are not set at this writing, Aloha Chapter is poised to assist them in making their stay on Oahu as interesting and enjoyable as possible.

On Friday evening, four MOAA chapters - Aloha, Hawaii, El Paso, and Southern Nevada - will have a joint dinner meeting at which MOAA Director Ron Buchert will be the guest speaker. On Saturday morning, all MOAA members and spouses will be invited to a ceremony dedicating a MOAA Plaque at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific Punchbowl. That evening, all participants in the Twinning Program are being invited to a dinner party at the Kaneohe residence of Les and Shirley Ihara.

To complete the second round of Twinning activities, current plans are for Aloha Chapter members and spouses to visit Las Vegas in September 2007 when the UH Warriors are scheduled to play there against UNLV. If you haven't participated in these Twinning Activities with the Southern Nevada Chapter, you should plan now on going to Las Vegas in 2007!

Takai, Hafer, Katsarsky Become Life Members; Daniel Bishop Also Enrolls as New Member in Aloha Chapter!

Following the lead of Richard Towne last month, three more have joined the Aloha Chapter as Life Members. A tip of the hat to Kyle Takai, Angela Hafer, and Leonard Katsarsky! In addition, CDR Daniel Bishop, USCG(Ret) joined this month. Welcome to all and thanks for your continuing support of the Aloha Chapter and MOAA! Remember, "Give me 10" in 2005!

Notice

This Newsletter is published monthly as an official publication of Aloha Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 19267, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96817-8267. Views expressed herein are not necessarily chapter policy.

Aloha Chapter Spouses Tour Historic Royal Hawaiian Hotel

By Marion Von

DID YOU KNOW?

1. The Matson family built the Royal Hawaiian Hotel in 1927.

2. The color pink was chosen for the hotel because the Wilder family (close friends of the Matsons) went to Portugal, fell in love with all homes that were painted pink and wanted to paint their home in Hawaii that color as well. Mrs. Matson also fell in love with the color and decided to paint the hotel pink, too.

3. The Monarch Room was originally called the Persian Room until after the war. In 1945, the room was renamed the Monarch Room.

4. During the war, the Navy took over the hotel for 3 1/2 years and used the hotel to house their personnel. Officers were charged \$1.00 per day while the enlisted men paid fifty cents per day.

These were just some of the interesting facts our ladies learned during their tour of the Royal Hawaiian Hotel. The tour was led by Helene Webster, wife of Mark Webster (Community Service Chairman). Afterwards, 22 ladies enjoyed a lovely lunch in the Surf Room. All attendees expressed a desire to have more of these ladies-only activities, so keep checking the newsletter for information about our next outing. If you would like to help plan these kinds of activities, please call Marion Von @732-3908.



Banquet Preparations (from Page 1)

limit attendance on a "first come, first served" basis. Reservations will be accepted on a "first come, first served" basis for the first 50 Aloha Chapter members. Reservations must be received by deadline of **Friday, September 16, 2005**. Please note that there is no cost for this dinner to MOAA members.

The best way to find your way to the Hall is to get on Kapiolani Boulevard and turn right if you are coming from Ewa-side and left if you are coming from Diamond Head-side at University Avenue. Go all the way makai toward Ala Wai Canal until you hit Hihiwai Street and turn left toward Diamond Head. You will see the Ala Wai Elementary School on your right where you can park. There will be parking signs. Then walk mauka toward Kapiolani Boulevard and the hall is halfway up the block on Kamoku Street.

Please be sure to send in your reservation as soon as you can to assure your attendance. You'll find a reservation form on page 7 of this newsletter.

Interested in receiving the Aloha Chapter newsletter electronically? It's easy and saves the chapter on postage! Contact Dell Epperson at dellnjan@hawaii.rr.com for details.



FALL SPECIAL

For \$10 more per person a day at Kilauea Military Camp (KMC), you can enjoy breakfast, lunch, and dinner at KMC's Lava Café.

IT'S A MEAL-OF-A-DEAL!

Make your reservations today and save! Rates start at \$73 and up per night, double occupancy.

*Available September through December 2005 except during peak periods; other restrictions apply.



\$89 KMC BIRTHDAY TOUR SPECIAL**

KMC Celebrates its 89th Birthday with...

FOUR great island tours for TWO...

(Hilo Tour, Chain of Craters Tour, Crater Rim Tour and Circle Island Tour - total value is \$172.00)

ALL for just \$89!

Call (808) 967-8333 or direct dial from Oahu at 438-6707. Online reservations also available through our website at www.kmc-volcano.com.

**Available only in November 2005 and to us must occur over a 3-day period. Does not include airfare or lodging; other restrictions may apply.



MOUNTAIN COTTAGES & RESORT
KILAUEA VOLCANO
KMC • A JOINT SERVICES RECREATION CENTER



Kilauea Military Camp is open to all Active and Retired Military, Reserve/National Guard Members, Current and Retired Department of Defense Civilians, Family Members and Sponsored Guests. For more information, please call KMC Marketing at (808) 967-8370.

“GIVE ME 10” MOAA MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

THE ALOHA CHAPTER NEEDS 10 NEW MEMBERS IN 2005!

By Gordon Cho, Membership Chair

The above goal, when achieved will help to support the 2005 national MOAA membership campaign target of 4200 new members by 31 December 2005. The membership campaign is called “GIVE ME 10” and challenges each of the 420 local chapters to recruit at least 10 new members by the end of the year.

President Von will soon receive a personal letter from MOAA President Vice Admiral Norb Ryan asking for support of the program. We need to support this effort for several reasons:

- ◆ New members assure the viability of our chapter.
- ◆ “Give Me 10” incentives for those who join MOAA National:
 - ◆ The chapter will receive \$10 for each new member signed up;
 - ◆ \$100 bonus if we sign up 10 new members before 31 December 2005;
 - ◆ A \$1000 prize will be awarded to the chapter (by category) that recruits the most new members;
 - ◆ Individual recruiters are eligible to enter for a \$1000 drawing prize each time they sign up a new member. The new member associated with the sweepstakes winner will also receive a life membership with the national MOAA and a \$500 prize as well.

We will be publishing more material on the “Give Me 10” Program in the future. As for now, I ask each of our members to get out and beat the bushes and get ready to sign up new members. Membership forms and the new dues rates are available on page 7 and also on the Aloha Chapter website: <http://www.aloha-moaa.org>.

*Experience Our Paradise This Fall
at the Hale Koa Hotel*

Back-to-School Magic in Paradise
Swing, Dribble, Dance or Run back to school
with our Special Back-to-School Magic Shows
September 6 & 13
Tickets on sale now*



Oktoberfest 2005
Join us for Oktoberfest at the Hale Koa's
fun-filled Bavarian "Brauhaus," where
food, fun and chicken dancing abounds!
September 28 - October 2
Tickets on sale now*

*To purchase tickets or for more information
Please call the Activities Desk
at (808)955-0555 ext. 546

 **HALE KOA HOTEL**

Fort DeRussy Armed Forces Recreation Center ● 2055 Kalia Road ● Honolulu, Hawaii 96815-1998
808-955-0555 ● 1-800-367-6027 ● www.halekoa.com

The Hale Koa welcomes all active duty and retired military, Reserve/National Guard members
and dependents, current and retired Department of Defense civilians and sponsored guests.

Take Care of Your Survivors— NOW!

By Bob Kozuki, Personal Affairs Committee

In the Aug 2005 Aloha Chapter News Letter, an Auxiliary member wrote, "As auxiliary members, we have been through difficult experience of losing our husbands. While we hope this never happens to you, there are certain things you should know. If your spouse dies before you, do you know what to do and where to go for information about legal matters and entitlements? Do you know where your important papers are located? Do you know what benefits you are entitled to from DoD, the VA, Social Security and other insurances?"

I encourage all our members to call the National MOAA's Member Service Center at toll free number, 1 800 234 6622, or go to msc@moaa.org and click on "Publications," and request a copy of "Help Your Survivors—Now." This informative pamphlet not only explains what planning should take place, but it also has a check list of documents you need to have readily available.

These other pamphlets are also available through the National MOAA Office:

1) SBP: Yesterday and Today, 2) SBP Made Easy, 3) Survivor Checklist, 4) TAPS: A Guide To Military Burial, 5) National Guard/Reserve Retirement Benefits, 6) Financial Planning Guide, and 7) Marketing Yourself for a Second Career.

These pamphlets are available at no cost to our Aloha Chapter members, by calling the MOAA's Member Service Center at 1-800-234-6622.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- September 19-22 --- Kilauea Military Camp trip with Las Vegas Chapter**
- September 23 --- Memorial Plaque Banquet at 100th Inf (Friday) Bn Veterans Hall—6:30pm**
- September 23 --- Aloha Chapter Golf Outing (Friday) Klipper Golf Course**
- September 24 --- MOAA Memorial Plaque Installation (Saturday) at Punchbowl National Cemetery**
- October 19 --- Jerry Coffee Luncheon at Hale Ikena (Wednesday) 11:30 AM**
- October 28 --- Aloha Chapter Golf Outing (Friday) Leilehua Golf Course**
- November 17 --- Chapter Election Night – Place to be (Thursday) announced later**
- November 18 --- Aloha Chapter Golf Outing (Friday) Barber's Point Golf Course**
- December 16 --- Aloha Chapter Golf Outing (Friday) Leilehua Golf Course**
- December 17 --- Chapter Christmas Party at Hale Koa (Saturday)**

Leaving the Military?

Continue to Make a Difference

Become a Teacher

- Go to "doe-jobs.k12.hi.us"
- Click on: Troops to Teachers icon
- You may be qualified to receive a
*\$5,000 Stipend or *\$10,000 Bonus
*Pending availability of funds

Contact: Hawaii Troops to Teachers at 587-5580 ext 409
Neighbor Islands: call 1-800-420-3688 email: hawaii@notes.k12.hi.us
Or go to: www.proudtoserveagain.com

Troops to Teachers

Chapter Bridge Popularity Continues to Grow

The MOAA Aloha Chapter bridge was held at the Fahrnis' Bridge Studio in August. We were so happy to have enough players for five tables! We began our games in September 04 with only two tables!

The Fahrnis hosted with another marvelous table of fruits, sweet delicacies, cheeses, breads and fixings for delicious sandwiches. Coffee and cold drinks were also provided.

Winners were: 1st - Charleen Towne; 2nd - Mitzi Austin (who was a sub but consented to become a member); 3rd - Bill Ernst; and 4th - Tamae Shiraishi.

The next bridge game will be held on September 18, at the Fahrnis' Studio on Kam Highway at 1:00 p.m. Reservations must be made with Edy Kuwamoto at 488-0134.

Shirley Ihara was gracious to take over chairing the group beginning next month. Please don't hesitate to join us for great fun, great food and good bridge! Hosts for September are Ken and Lillian Patterson.

Munechika, Yamada Take Top Honors in “Blind Partners” Format During Aloha Chapter August Links Play at Klipper Golf Course

by Norman Fujiwara

August 29th: Yesterday, here in Mililani it was pouring and I was somewhat concerned about our golf outing for today. However, this morning all the way from Mililani to Kaneohe was simply perfect golf weather. I was sure it was going to be a perfect day for the format I chose to use at Klipper Golf Course. I had 24 players signed up, perfect with 6 tee times scheduled. We did have one no-show but we still went along with the six tee times, with one group of three players.

The format selected for the day was two player blind partners. All players played their normal game and at the end of 18 holes subtracted their handicap to obtain their net score. Each player then picked numbers marked on poker chips and each pair of players with the same number became partners. Their net scores were totaled and all the scores were tabulated and the lowest total were the winners of the mega-jackpot.

Today we had three guests who joined us. They included Dick Risher, John Serhant, the guest of Dick Towne, Nobu Matsuda, the guest of Les Ihara, and two wahine players, Honeyjean Katsarsky and Alice Fujiwara.

In the past I have listed the winners of the mega-jackpot first. Today I would like to list the players who contributed to the mega-jackpot but the only compensation they received was the fellowship of playing 18 holes. They included Curtis Kekoa, Chuck McCauley, John Seeley, Dick Towne, Yoshi Nakamura, Honeyjean Katsarsky, Jack Bohman, Len Katsarsky, Les Ihara, Allen Ono, Marv Braum, Joe Kuroda, John Serhant, and Gordon Cho.

Now for those who were winners of the mega-jackpot. In fourth place, with a combined net score of 158, were Don Dismuke and Alice Fujiwara. In third place with a net score of 155 were Nobu Matsuda (guest) and Bob Kozuki. The second place team with a net score of 151 was Vernon Von and yours truly. Finally, the first place winners with a net score of 151 were Ken Munechika and Ken Yamada. Since there were two teams with a net score of 151, a tie breaker was conducted and the two Kens won the tie breaker.

Next month's Aloha Chapter golf outing will be at Klipper GC again on Friday, September 23rd. I am thinking of a format called California Scramble for that date so please keep that date open for some fun golfing.

Aloha and good golfing, Norm

2005 Aloha Chapter Golf Schedule

MONTH	DATE	FIRST TEE TIME	GOLF COURSE
September	23rd (Fri)	9:30AM	Klipper GC
October	28th (Fri)	8:31AM	Leilehua GC
November	18th (Fri)	9:30AM	Barbers Pt GC
December	16th (Fri)	8:52AM	Leilehua GC



It takes
a friend
to lead
the way.

Your leadership and
commitment to help
secure the world will make
a difference in the lives of
other people. No matter
who those people are, that
difference is their freedom.



www.PenFed.org
1-800-247-5626

RESERVATION FORM
MOAA PUNCHBOWL MEMORIAL PLAQUE BANQUET
 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2005, at 6:30 pm
 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION VETERANS HALL
520 KAMOKU STREET, HONOLULU

Member _____ Spouse _____ Tel No. _____

Need Transportation _____ (Please check)

Please send in your reservation by **Friday, September 16, 2005 to:**

Aloha Chapter, P. O. Box 19267, Honolulu, HI 96817

Note: As MOAA, National HQ is paying for this function and there is no cost to members, reservations will be accepted on a “first come, first served” basis for the first 50 Aloha Chapter members. Reservations must be received by deadline of **Friday, September 16, 2005**. Free parking is available at Ala Wai Elementary School on Hihiwai Street.

Other MOAA members from Southern Nevada (Las Vegas), El Paso (Texas) and Hawaii Chapter are also invited to this banquet.

SBP Open Enrollment Update: Congress approved the open enrollment authority last October, in conjunction with a substantially improvement in SBP benefits. Under the new law change, the minimum age-62 SBP survivor annuity will rise from the current 35% of SBP-covered retired pay to 40% as of Oct. 1, 2005; to 45% next Apr. 1; to 50% on Apr. 1, 2007; and to the full 55% of covered retired pay on Apr. 1, 2008. The open season is intended to allow non-enrollees to cover their spouses under this substantially upgraded program. For more information, check out the website www.moaa.org.

Recruit A New Member in 2005!

The Aloha Chapter continues to grow, and it is due to your efforts. Make it a point to recruit one new member in 2005. It’s easy—clip and use the form below! For more info, contact Gordon Cho.

Enroll me as a Regular Member: Each year of membership = \$15

Aloha Chapter, MOAA Membership/Application Form

Enroll me as a Life Member: Life Membership Rates: Age 71 and older=\$85; Age 61-70=\$135; Age 51-60=\$185; Age 50 and under=\$235

Enroll me as an Auxiliary Member (e.g. spouse of officer, surviving spouse of deceased officer):

Each year of membership=\$10 Life membership=\$90

Name Last, First, Middle Initial(s) _____ DOB MM/DD/YYYY _____

Address Number, Street, Apt. # _____ Spouse’s Name _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Telephone No, Home, Fax, Email _____

Applicant’s Signature _____

Recruiter/Sponsor Name _____

*Mail Application Form and Membership
 Dues check to: Aloha Chapter, MOAA
 P.O. Box 19267
 Honolulu, HI 96817-0267*

CHECK APPLICABLE BOXES

- | STATUS | RANK | SERVICE |
|--|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Active | <input type="text"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> US Army |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve | | <input type="checkbox"/> USAF |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Guard | | <input type="checkbox"/> US Navy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retired from AD/Res | | <input type="checkbox"/> USCG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Former Officer | | <input type="checkbox"/> USMC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Auxiliary (check Rank and Service of Spouse in space above) | | <input type="checkbox"/> USPHS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National MOAA Member: | | <input type="checkbox"/> NOAA |

MOAA No.: _____

Revised: May 2005. All prior forms obsolete.
 Note: Dues are not tax-deductible as charitable donations.

Aloha Chapter
 Military Officers Association
 Of America
 P.O. Box 19267
 Honolulu HI 96817-8267



MOAA Seal

Aloha Chapter



Awards

- ◆ 2000 Outstanding Chapter Runner-Up
- ◆ 2000 3-Membership Recruiting Awards
- ◆ 2001 Outstanding Chapter
- ◆ 2001 Membership Recruiting Award
- ◆ 2002 5-Star Chapter
- ◆ 2002 Excellence in Recruiting Award
- ◆ 2003 Honorable Mention Newsletter
- ◆ 2003 4-Star Chapter
- ◆ **2004 Winner Best Website**
- ◆ **2004 2nd Runner-Up Electronic Newsletter**
- ◆ **2004 4-Star Chapter**

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Officers/Executive Committee

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Vice Pres.-Harold Kuwahara	373-4400	harold@hele.net
Secretary-Gordon Cho	484-2400	gcho440443@aol.com
Treasurer-Art Yamamoto	833-3111	aty@verizon.net

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