

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*

Volume No. 7, Issue No. 7

Web Site: <http://www.aloha-moaa.org>

July 2006

Annual Aloha Chapter Scholarship Luncheon Honors 3 Recipients

The Aloha Chapter Scholarship Fund completed their Academic Year 2006-2007 scholarship program by selecting and honoring three recipients of the scholarship grants.

At a luncheon on June 15, 2006, at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter, Chairman **Allen K. Ono**, welcomed approximately forty chapter members, their guests and the scholarship grant recipients. The scholarship recipients, introduced to the members by the Program Chairman, **Nari Hamlin**, were Maria Gaff, recipient of a \$500 grant, who is pursuing studies that will lead to a career as an Army officer, and Akeyo Garcia, recipient of \$1000 grant, who is a candidate for an advanced degree in teaching. The recipients were accompanied by their spouses. **Nari Hamlin** stated that Jill Yablonski, a recipient of \$1000, also pursuing a teaching career, was unable to attend the luncheon and a certificate awarding her the scholarship grant would be mailed to her. **Chairman Ono** presented each recipient present with a certificate awarding the scholarship grant.

Vice Chairman **Howard S. Okada** introduced the guest speaker, Gervin K. Miyamoto, an investigator from the office of the United States Attorney's office in Honolulu, who presented a timely briefing dealing with drug abuse and identify theft, which are major problems in Hawaii. His presentation was an eye-opener and a stern warning of the dangers we face today because of drug abuse and identify theft. Upon completion of his informative talk, Mr. Miyamoto answered many questions from the appreciative attendees.



Gervin Miyamoto, guest speaker, with Scholarship Committee members **Nari Hamlin** & **Howard Okada**



Akeyo Garcia and **Maria Gaff**, two of our scholarship recipients, with Aloha Chapter Scholarship Committee

Chairman Ono closed the luncheon by congratulating the scholarship recipients and thanking Mr. Miyamoto for his excellent presentation of the problems facing our society. **Chairman Ono** completed his remarks by thanking the members for their attendance and support of the scholarship program.

Inside	
Bridge	5
Calendar	2
Chapt. Leaders	8
Editorial	2
Golf	6
July Luncheon	7
Merrie Ladies	3
Tournament	7
VA Update	4

President's Message

By Vernon Von

WE ARE HALF- WAY TO THE END OF THE YEAR



What have you done with the first half? We need all members to get involved in projects and activities of our chapter. This newsletter is the only way we have to reach all of you. E-mail is next but not everyone has the capability or inclination to receive information electronically. So, we ask for your kokua in helping and participating in chapter activities and programs.

We have embarked on another **Give Me 10** campaign. Just think, if each member enlisted one new member, the results would be mind boggling. Search your friends and sign them up (at least one) for National MOAA membership as well as with our local chapter. We were awarded slightly over \$1,200 for our efforts in last year's campaign.

Programs for the rest of the year are set and we ask you to make every effort to attend these events. Notably, in October, we will host a combined meeting of the Hawaii and Aloha chapters to hear Phillip Dwyer, CFP, from MOAA Headquarters who will speak on financial planning and update us on MOAA activities on Capitol Hill.

The HAMS golf tournament (article on Page 7) last month was a huge success due to the tireless efforts of **Gordon Cho** and **Les** and **Shirley Ihara**. A lot of volunteers were available throughout the day to help with tournament tasks. A big MAHALO to all. Bridge and golf are always activities open for your participation. **Shirley Ihara** is our bridge coordinator and **Norman Fujiwara** is our golf coordinator. We would also like to hear from you on other activities and/or programs we could offer our members. Speak to any of our Executive Committee members (see last page of this newsletter for names and phone numbers) with your suggestions. Also **Sam Heard**, our Community Ser-

vices Chairman, would welcome your suggestions for service projects we can do throughout the year to benefit our military community.

Last May our Personal Affairs Chairman, **Bob Kozuki**, sent a note of condolence from our chapter to U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye upon the death of his wife, Maggie. In response, we've received a genial letter of "gratitude for our gracious gesture of remembrance" of his greatly-missed wife of 58 years.

Also, last month our chapter received a letter, on behalf of Governor Linda Lingle, from Col. Edward R. Cruickshank, USA, Ret., Director of the State of Hawaii Department of Defense, thanking us for the several floral lei and presentation of our organizational flags at the Governor's Memorial Day Ceremony at the Hawaii State Veteran's Cemetery, Kaneohe. He said he appreciates our support and dedication to honor our fallen comrades year after year.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Mitzi Austin, LCDR, USN (former officer)

John E. Seward, BG, USA

Lisa M. Seward, CAPT, USAF (former officer)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 1, 2006 — 1000, *Operation Gratitude for our Citizen Warriors*, Blaisdell Exhibition Hall (Saturday)

July 13, 2006 — 1130, Luncheon, Tree Tops Restaurant; (Thursday) **John B. Seely**, guest speaker re FEMA

July 16, 2006 — 1300, Bridge Group Party, Colonnade -on-the-Green Recreation Room, Aiea (Sunday)

July 28, 2006 — Golf Outing, Klipper Golf Course, (Friday) Kaneohe

Aug 14, 2006 — 1000, *Merrie Ladies Buffet Luncheon and Make-Up Session*; Hale Koa, Ft. Shafter (Monday)

Aug 17, 2006 — 1000-1300, Makua Valley Tour (Thursday)

Sept. 2006 — C-17 aircraft tour (tentative)

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.



Hale Koa Hotel's Wine & Dine Experience

*Experience the Art of Fine Dining at the Hale Koa Room
and enter for your chance to win great prizes throughout the summer.*

*Monthly Drawings
for \$100 Dining Credit
at the Hale Koa Room*



*Grand Prize Giveaway
for a Napa Valley
Experience for 2*



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.



Merrie Ladies Get More Beautiful!

MAKE - UP, COLOR, AND YOU

On Monday, August 14th, the Merrie Ladies will gather at the Hale Ikena for a demonstration by a professional make-up artist, Leona Komine, and a color consultant, Kim Kubo.

Leona is the 2004 Mrs. Hawaii and works at the *Color Cuts Salon* on Ala Moana Blvd. She will share tips on skin care and make up techniques for the busy woman. Kim works with Leona and will teach us about what colors are best for us to wear.

PLACE: Hale Ikena, Ft. Shafter
DATE: Monday, August 14, 2006
TIME: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
COST: \$15.00 (includes lunch buffet)
RSVP: No later than August 7th
CALL: **Nari Hamlin**, 486-7159;
Marion Von, 732-3908;
Helene Webster, 734-5994



Gasoline Pricing and Policy on Military Bases

The military policy is to match gasoline prices of the lowest competitor in their trading area. As you know, no retailer can stay in business selling a product at cost. When a retailer chooses to sell gasoline at or near cost, they are charging higher prices on other retail products to subsidize this practice. One exception to this are the wholesale clubs that make their profit in charging their customers a membership fee, something military patrons do not have to do. Also, the prices are not marked up in the exchanges to compensate for low gasoline prices. It's an overall bargain.

Additionally (and unfortunately), military gasoline stations are not exempted from collecting taxes on gasoline sales. Specifically, in 1936, Congress gleefully passed the Hayden-Cartwright Act, U.S. Code, Title 4, Section 104, "Tax on Motor Fuel Sold on Military or Other Reservation," which allows states the ability to collect taxes on motor fuels sold on base.



VA Recovers Stolen Laptop — Veteran's Data Not Accessed

The government has recovered the stolen laptop computer and hard drive with sensitive data on up to 26.5 million veterans and military personnel. The FBI said Thursday there is no evidence that anyone accessed Social Security numbers and other data on the equipment.

Veterans Affairs Secretary Jim Nicholson, in announcing the recovery of the computer, said there have been no reports of identity theft stemming from the May 3 burglary at a VA employee's Maryland home.

The FBI, in a statement from its Baltimore field office, said a preliminary review of the equipment by its computer forensic teams "has determined that the data base remains intact and has not been accessed since it was stolen." More tests were planned, however.

Nicholson said the laptop and hard drive were turned in to the FBI. No suspects were in custody.

"This has brought to the light of day some real deficiencies in the manner we handled personal data," Nicholson said. "If there's a redeeming part of this, I think we can turn this around," he said.

An unidentified person turned the laptop in Wednesday to FBI agents in Baltimore, according to Michelle Crnkovich, a spokeswoman for the Baltimore FBI field office.

Agents there conducted the initial forensic examination and were sending the laptop to the FBI in Washington for further tests, Crnkovich said.

Crnkovich said the tipster who turned in the laptop has not been charged and likely was not the thief. She said the FBI still believes the laptop was taken in a routine burglary and that the VA data was not the target. She did not know if the tipster was eligible for the \$50,000 reward offered for information on the laptop's whereabouts.

Nicholson urged veterans to keep watch over their financial records until more tests are completed in the coming days. **The VA's offer of free credit monitoring for a year is still in effect until subsequent tests are completed,** he said.

Newly discovered documents show that the 60-year-old VA analyst blamed for losing the laptop had received permission to work from home with data that included millions of Social Security numbers and other personal information on veterans and military personnel. Accordingly, he is fighting his dismissal.

Rep. Steve Buyer, R-Ind., chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, which was investigating the breach, said he was pleased that veterans may now be able to "breathe a sigh of relief."

"However, this will not diminish our oversight," he said. "We will hold the VA responsible and accountable."

By *HOPE YEN*
Associated Press Writer



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



CONGRATULATIONS!
NEW LIFE MEMBER

Davidson Luehring, CDR, USN

June Bridge Report

The June Aloha Chapter Party Bridge session was held on Sunday the 25th at the Fahrni Realty building in Aiea. It was ably hosted by **Bill and Trudy Ernst**, who were able to get 20 players for 5 tables of bridge.

Since they found out that it was the newest chapter member **Dave Luehring's** birthday, they arranged for those present to sing "Happy Birthday to You" when he entered the building and even furnished a birthday cake which all of the bridge players enjoyed that afternoon.

Those participating were: **Mitzi Austin, Ken & Lia Carroll, Bob & Mimi Deibler, Bill & Trudy Ernst, Len & Helen Fahrni, Sam Heard, Helen Hubbell, Les & Shirley Ihara, Dave & Lois Luehring, Dick & Charlene Towne, Vernon & Marion Von**, and Guest **Jan**. The top scorers are shown in the photo.



*Standing, left to right: Top scorer - **Vernon Von**;
2nd - **Bob Deibler**; and 4th - **Les Ihara**.
Seated, left to right: 6th - **Mimi Deibler**; 5th -
Helen Fahrni; and 3rd - **Shirley Ihara**.*

The next Chapter Party Bridge Session will be held on Sunday, July 16th, at the Fahrni Realty Building, 98-277 Kamehameha Hwy, Aiea, beginning at 1 pm. Hosts for the session will be **Len and Helen Fahrni**.

Those who haven't signed up yet and would like to play on that date must contact **Helen** at [486-1951](tel:486-1951) not later than July 9th. 

Chapter Charity

Our Aloha Chapter is collecting old clothing and toilet articles for the homeless veterans at Barbers Point. A retired senior NCO collects these items at the base chapel, which is not connected with the charity. According to him, there are some 200 veterans who are homeless and going through various stages of training to be mainstreamed back into society. He said a few are going through rehab for substance abuse, but a majority of them are there receiving training to learn a skill and also learning to live independently. There are some women, too.

We have already collected some old clothing and toilet articles and purchased other items from the military exchange and commissary.

Norm Fujiwara is coordinating the delivery of donated items. Any items you can provide will be greatly appreciated by our chapter and, particularly, these veterans. Please call **Norm** at [626-4630](tel:626-4630) if you would like to help. 

Aloha Chapter Golf Report For June

By Norm Fujiwara

The day before our monthly scheduled golf outing on Monday, June 26th, I heard the patter of rain drops on the roof and the blue sky had turned to a gray overcast sky. I felt some anxiety about a possible rain check for our day of golf. Fortunately, the next morning much of the blue skies had returned and the fear of rain vanished.

We had a red letter day at Leilehua Golf Course. Twenty-two players signed up, including six females, so we actually had a ladies foursome for the very first time in the Aloha Chapter golf outing. Many thanks to Marilyn Tagawa, who invited three of her ladies golfing friends. I would like to say "thank you" for coming out to Norma Young, Mae Uemura and Lorraine Hurokawa. I hope that they will be joining us in the future. We also had a few once-in-a-blue-moon players, **Walter Kinoshita, Clarence Agena,** and our son Nelson and his wife Kerri from Houston, Texas.

There were only seven lucky players out of the twenty-two players that day. These very lucky players indeed shared the mega jackpot. In

fourth place was Marv Vaum, who selected himself as partner so he did not share the winnings with a partner as did the rest of the winners; in third place were **Walter Kinoshita** and **John Seeley**; in second place were **Bob Kozuki** and yours truly; and in first place, winning the major portion of the mega jackpot, were Yoshi Nakamura and **Chuck McCauley**.

Now for those who played but were not able to take home the bacon were **Allen Ono, Mel Soong, Leroy Perry, Ken Yamada, Dick Towne, Jack Bohman, Clarence Agena, Ira Tagawa,** Marilyn Tagawa, Alice Fujiwara and Nelson and Kerri Fujiwara and the three lady guests of Marilyn, who did not participate in the mega jackpot.

Thanks to all the participants who made the June golf outing so successful. Next month's golf outing will be on Friday, July 28th at Klipper Golf Course in Kaneohe.

Aloha and good golfing,

Norm



Recruit A New Member in 2006!

Your Aloha Chapter is always looking for new members—active duty, retirees, and auxiliary members, all are welcome and will enjoy the camaraderie of the Aloha Chapter. Make it your goal to recruit one new member in 2006. For more information, contact **Gordon Cho, Vernon Von** or any chapter officer.

One world, one you, one credit union.

A world of personal financial tools is available to you with superior rates and proven service.

Checking • Auto Loans
Mortgages • Savings
Credit Cards • And more

Join today.

Pentagon Federal Credit Union
Superior Rates. Proven Service.®

1-800-247-5626 • www.PenFed.org
Fort Shafter – Building 553

Please mention Code 600. You must be a member to receive services. All Army, Air Force, Coast Guard (including National Guard and Reserve), Dept. of Homeland Security personnel, many Dept. of Defense personnel, VFW members, and your families are eligible to join. Others are also eligible.

July Luncheon

Our July buffet luncheon will be very informative and opportune. It is scheduled for 11:30, Thursday, July 13th, at the Tree Tops Restaurant.

Chapter member Col. **John B. Seely**, USA, Ret., will speak about his service with FEMA in Florida in 2004 and 2005 during the hurricane season. A question and answer period is set aside after his talk. Please send in your reservation form to the right.



RESERVATION FORM

FEMA BUFFET LUNCHEON

Thursday, July 13, 2006

11:30 AM

Tree Tops Restaurant

3737 Manoa Road, Honolulu

Member: _____ Spouse: _____

Guest: _____ Cost \$11.00 per person x ___ = \$ _____

Transportation _____ (Please check, if needed)

Please send in your reservation by Friday, July 7, 2006 to:

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

Note: You may also make your reservation via:
e-mail – harold@hele.net or by phone – 944-4010

Aloha Chapter Assists Hawaii Army Museum Society Golf Tournament

On Friday, June 23rd, an eager group of about 30 members and spouses of our Aloha Chapter volunteered to spend the day providing an assortment of services supporting the annual Hawaii Army Museum Society (HAMS) Golf Tournament at Leilehua Golf Course. They monitored various events, such as closest to the hole; displayed the numerous prizes; served a stew and rice lunch; and drove beverage carts.

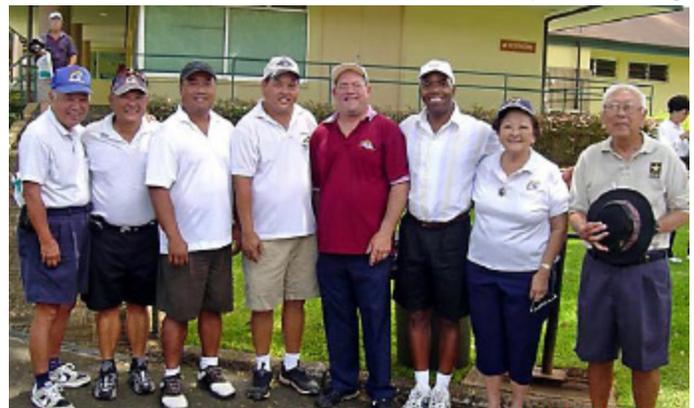
The 126 participants in this benefit tournament for HAMS paid \$140 each to play an 18-hole round of golf. Our chapter donated \$600 to sponsor four Army servicemen (2 active, 2 reserve), thereby becoming a Bronze Sponsor of this 25th annual tournament.

Membership Application

Name _____
Branch of Service _____ Rank _____
Retired Active Former _____
Reserve National Guard Auxiliary* _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Date of Birth _____
Phone Number _____
E-Mail Address _____
Chapter Name Aloha Chapter, HI
Chapter Recruiter _____

*Surviving spouse of eligible officer.

Dues to MOAA are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal tax purposes. Annual membership dues include a \$12 subscription to MILITARY OFFICER magazine.



The 4 sponsored 411th Eng Bn golfers flanked by Les Ihara, Gordon Cho, Shirley Ihara & Allen Ono

Add these Websites to your "Favorites"

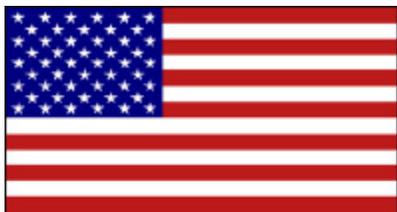
<http://www.aloha-moaa.org>

<http://www.moaa.org>

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



MOAA Seal



INDEPENDENCE DAY
Fly the Flag

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
- * **2005 Winner-Cat VII "Give Me 10" Recruitment Campaign**

Nonprofit Org
 US Postage Paid
 Honolulu HI

Permit No. 930

2006 Aloha Chapter Leadership

Board of Directors

Jerry Lesperance, USCG, Vice	488-5205	jlesperance@hawaii.rr.com
Clarence Agena, USA	677-4103	cmagenal@verizon.net
Anna Blackwell, AUX	739-9164	annagram2@aol.com
Jack Bohman, USA	235-8078	jbohman59@hawaii.rr.com
Joseph Magaldi, Jr., USMC	222-2013	magaldij001@hawaii.rr.com

Officers/Executive Committee

President-Vernon Von, USAF	732-3908	vvon777@earthlink.net
Vice Pres.-Harold Kuwahara	944-4010	harold@hele.net
Secretary-Gordon Cho	484-2400	gcho440443@aol.com
Treasurer-Art Yamamoto	833-3111	aty@verizon.net

Committee Chairs

Community Services: Sam Heard, 488-8897, jetsethawaii@hotmail.com

Fundraising: Herbert Nakagawa Jr., 271-1172, shibikoherb@hotmail.com

Govt/Legislative Affairs: Kelley Roberson, 732-2988, kelleYROBerson@hawaii.rr.com

Historical Activities: Nari Hamlin, 486-7150, narivee@aol.com

Membership: Gordon Cho, 484-2400, gcho440443@aol.com

Personal Affairs: Bob Kozuki, 693-8965, kozukir001@hawaii.rr.com

Program: Harold Kuwahara, 944-4010, Harold@hele.net

Publications/Webmaster: Mark Webster, 734-5994, Markster@hawaii.rr.com

ROTC/Veteran Affairs: Wes Fong, 595-6127, wesleyf.fong@hawaiiantele.net