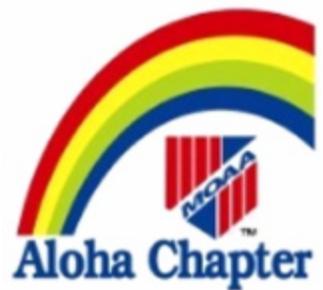


Nā Leo O Nā Koa

(Voices of Warriors)



Chartered January 27, 2000



2004 Chapter Rating

*Newsletter of the Aloha Chapter,
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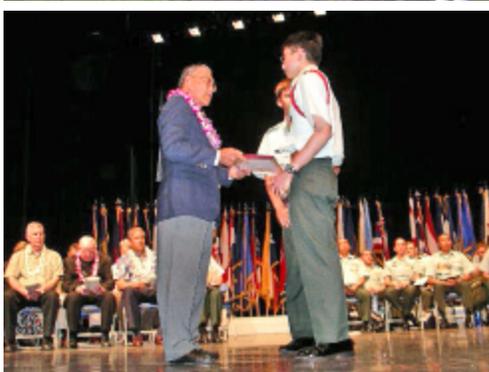


Five highest Aloha Chapter bridge players at the residence of Mel & Edy Kawamoto on May 21: Mel Kuwamoto, Edy Kuwamoto, Les Ibara, Shirley Ibara and Dick Towne, the highest scorer.

Article on Page 3



Memorial Clean-up Crew on May 4: Gordon Cho, Vern Von, Les Ibara, Bob Kozuki, Shirley Ibara, Larry Enomoto, Yuriko Enomoto, Sam Heard, Grace Munichika, Shirley Todd, Bill Ernst and Ken Munichika. Mary Cho & Marion Von not pictured.



Aloha Chapter President Vernon Von presenting the MOAA award for superior achievement to an outstanding cadet at Punahou School in Dillingham Hall on May 22. He encouraged the recipient to "be proud of your accomplishments and keep a humble heart."



President Vernon Von displaying our Aloha Chapter banner on Memorial Day at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl.

Bridge Bunch: Front, Lois Luebring, Len & Helen Farhni; Seated middle row, Bill Ernst, Helen Hubbell, Dick Towne and Davidson Luebring; Standing, Trudy Ernst, Mitzzi Austin, Charlene Towne, and Gary & Bev Jensen.



Larry Enomoto supervising Shirley Ibara cleaning the Korean/Vietnam Memorial, May 4.



Mayor Mufi Hannemann with Aloha Chapter President Vernon Von and Veterans' Affairs Chairman Wesley Fong at the Memorial Day services, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl.



Vernon Von, Harold Kuwahara, Wesley Fong and Mark Webster representing the Aloha Chapter at the Memorial Day services at the Hawaii State Veterans' Cemetery, Kaneohe, Hawaii. Governor Linda Lingle was the guest speaker.



President's Message

By Vernon Von

MEMORIALS AND MULLIGANS



Memorial Day services on the last Monday in May were very well conducted and certainly brought back memories of past world conflicts and those who gave their lives or were injured fighting for peace and freedom. Mayor Hannemann, at Punchbowl and Governor Lingle at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery both reminded us of the unselfish devotion and loyalty of all our armed services personnel, both those who gave their lives and those who serve today. Mulligans remind us of the upcoming Hawaii Army Museum Golf Tournament to be held on Friday, June 23 at the Leilehua Golf Course. A shotgun start at 12:30 will kick-off the event. More volunteers are still needed to help with the tournament. If you can help, please contact **Gordon Cho** at 484-2400 or gcho440443@aol.com. No experience is needed—only smiles and encouraging words.

It's official; DD-214's are Now Online. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD0214s online at <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>. This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents.

There has been a change of command. The new commander of the Honolulu Recruiting Company is Captain Macpin J. Julation.

The Hawaii Chapter, MOAA has extended an invitation to all Aloha Chapter members to hear Congressman Ed Case speak on current congressional legislation of interest to Military families in Hawaii. This luncheon presentation will be held at the Kaneohe Marine Corps Base Hawaii Officers' Club, Monday, July 3, 2006, with a buffet lunch to

start at 11:00 a.m. Cost is \$20.00. If you wish to attend, send your reservation check by June 20th along with name(s) for name tags to: Hawaii Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 1185, Kailua, HI 96734-1185. For further information contact Jack Miller at 261-4100 or carita@pixi.com.

Our chapter has received a letter from MG Calvin "Kelly" Lau, USA (Ret), asking for our support in ". . . helping Guardsmen and Reservist secure their employer's support as they perform their military duties." I will tell him of our willingness to help him in this effort and ask any of you who would like to volunteer your services to please give me a call at 732-3908.

Finally, I also still need volunteers to help with *Operation Gratitude for our Citizen Warriors*. This event will be held on Saturday, July 1, 2006 at the Blaisdell Exhibition Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The purpose is to offer recently deployed members of the National Guard and Reserves an opportunity to learn about veteran benefits and related issues such as marriage and family enrichment, membership in veterans' organizations, and other services available within the community. We will have a table of brochures and other information that should be of help to Guardsmen and Reservists. Please let me know (732-3908) if you can help staff our table during these hours. 

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 15, 2006 — Noon, Scholarship Awards Luncheon, (Thursday) Hale Ikena, Ft. Shafter

June 23, 2006 — 1030, Hawaii Army Museum Society (Friday) (HAMS) Golf Tournament, Leilehua

June 25, 2006 — Bridge Group Party (Sunday)

June 26, 2006 — Golf Outing, Leilehua Golf Course (Monday)

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

August, 2006 — Makua Valley Tour. Date pending.

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.



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May Bridge Party

The May Chapter Party Bridge session was held on Sunday the 21st at the Aiea residence of **Mel & Edy Kuwamoto**. Sixteen players were on time to begin play at 1 pm. After 4 rounds of bridge, the 5 highest-scoring players were: **Mel Kuwamoto**, 2nd, **Edy Kuwamoto**, 3rd, **Les Ihara**, 4th, **Shirley Ihara**, 5th, and **Dick Towne**, highest scorer. In addition, **Mel Kuwamoto** and **Dick Towne** bid and made the 1st slam.

The 16 who participated were: **Mitzi Austin**, **Bill & Trudi Ernst**, **Len & Helen Farhni**, **Helen Hubbell**, **Gary & Bev Jensen**, **Les & Shirley Ihara**, **Mel & Edy Kuwamoto**, **Dick & Charlene Towne**, and new chapter Life Member **Davidson Luehring** and his wife **Lois**. Welcome aboard, **David & Lois!**

June's bridge session will be on Sunday the 25th hosted by **Bill and Trudi Ernst**. Those who have not signed-up but would like to play on that date are asked to contact them at [625-2545](tel:625-2545) as soon as possible so that the location for that session can be determined early.



Help Wanted

Volunteers are needed to help with the Hawaii Army Museum Society (HAMS) Golf tournament, held at Leilehua Golf Course on Friday, 23 June 2006. The **Aloha Chapter, MOAA**, has historically supported this event with chapter members to help operate the tournament. Each volunteer will receive lunch, a goody bag, and a buffet dinner for their efforts. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 1030 for course assignments and briefings. If you haven't already volunteered, please do so for this worthwhile event. We need at least a dozen volunteers.

Please contact **Gordon Cho**, Volunteer Coordinator, at 484-2400, or by e-mail to him at gcho440443@aol.com to get your name on the list and for further details.



ID Theft

As you have undoubtedly already read on the front pages of newspapers, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has recently learned that on May 3rd an employee took home electronic data from VA, which he was not authorized to do, and was in violation of established policies. The 60-year-old employee's home was burglarized and this data was stolen. This employee, who earns about \$100,000 per year, was placed on administrative leave, then, appropriately, fired on May 31st.

The data contained identifying information including names, social security numbers, and dates of birth for up to 26.5 million veterans discharged after 1975 and some spouses, as well as some disability ratings. As a result of this incident, information identifiable with you was potentially exposed to others. Note that the affected data did not include any of VA's electronic health records or any financial information.

The FBI and the VA are conducting a full-scale investigation into this matter. Authorities believe it is unlikely the perpetrators targeted the personal data or are aware they have this sensitive information. Authorities have not yet detected any suspicious activity connected with the lost data. In an effort to fully inform those potentially affected, the VA will send out individual notification letters to veterans and their families.

At this point there is no evidence that any missing data has been used illegally. However, the Department of Veterans Affairs is asking all veterans to be extra vigilant and to carefully monitor bank statements, credit card statements and any statements relating to recent financial transactions. If you notice unusual or suspicious activity, you should report it immediately to the financial institution involved and contact the Federal Trade Commission for further guidance.

If the data has been misused or otherwise used to commit fraud or identity theft crimes, it is likely that veterans may notice suspicious activity during May and June. All veterans that have retired since 1975 should vigilantly check their bank and charge statements.

The Federal Trade Commission recommends the following four steps if you detect suspicious activity or receive an advisory letter from the VA: Step 1 – Contact the fraud department of one of the three major credit bureaus:

Equifax: 1-800-525-6285; www.equifax.com;
P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374-0241
Experian: 1-888-EXPERIAN (397-3742);
www.experian.com; P.O. Box 9532, Allen, Texas
TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289;
www.transunion.com; Fraud Victim Assistance
Division, P.O. Box 6790, Fullerton, CA 92834.

Step 2 – Close any accounts that have been tampered with or opened fraudulently.

Step 3 – File a police report with your local police or the police in the community where the identity theft took place.

Step 4 – File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission by using the FTC's Identity Theft Hotline by telephone at 1-877-438-4338 or online at www.consumer.gov/idtheft or by mail at Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington DC 20580.

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- You may be qualified to receive a
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*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



A Trip To Kapolei & A Name Change

On May 8th the Ladies Only group had an excursion to the Advertiser's production plant at Kapolei. Mary Cho arranged this very informative tour. Thirteen women met at 9:15 am in the plant's waiting room where Chris Ghosh began explaining the plant's operation, new types of machinery and speculations about the future.

The Honolulu Advertiser's plant is newly built and opened in August 2004. The state of the art machinery was built in Germany and is quite different from the older model that was used before. Although papers were not being printed at the time of the tour, we could all imagine the hustle and bustle that must take place for producing the thousands of copies necessary each day. On top of the regular production, the Advertiser prints the US News Today and the local papers for the Navy, Army and Air Force.



The MERRIE LADIES at The Honolulu Advertiser

After the tour, we went to Ho Ho Chinese Restaurant in Kapolei and had a fabulous buffet. During lunch we talked about the future of our group, discussed plans for the next ladies get together and chose a new name for the ladies. The ladies decided to continue getting together as we enjoyed the fellowship of other women and felt we were getting to know one another better. Taffy Wells and Charlene Towne will work on the next get together which is planned for Monday, August 14th. News about this event will be announced in the Aloha Chapter Newsletter and



Most of our volunteers who served lunch with chickens donated by our Aloha Chapter to the Institute of Human Services on April 30 are, front row, Gordon Cho, Mary Cho and Wesley Fong; middle row, Alice Fujiwara and Maxine Yee; back row, Ira Tagawa, Mel Soong, Marilyn Tagawa, Norm Fujiwara and Jerry Lesperance.

at the June luncheon. After some discussion, we chose MERRIE LADIES as the official name for our ladies group.

If you want to be one of the MERRIE LADIES, call Marion Von at 732-3908.



May Aloha Chapter Golf Report

By Norm Fujiwara

It is so relaxing to be coordinating the golf schedule without the worry of rain, as I have been faced with the last few months. We had another beautiful day for golf on Friday, 19th of May at Barbers Point Golf Course. After having a couple of "ayes" changed to "nays" I was having a nagging feeling of a not so good day on the golf course, however at the last minute Thursday noon and Thursday night, I got two "nays" that were changed to "ayes" so I was back where I started from.

We did have one disaster at the golf course, an "aye" player came to the golf course spirits ready to play, had a golf cart, drove to his car and learned that the menhune had removed his golf clubs from the car that night and moved it into his home. Well, **Jack** (not mentioning any names) we will be playing again next month, so don't let the menhune get the best of you; we

did miss you on the course.

We had a player who has been sidelined for a while with hip and knee replacement but he, **Mel Soong**, bravely joined us and was able to go eighteen holes. It was really good to see him joining us, welcome back **Mel**. We also had **Len Katsarsky** playing with us again, he joined us last month but after his last stay in Tripler it was nice to see **Len** joining us again.

We played our usual two-player blind partners for the mega jackpot and finishing in third place were **Allen Ono** and **Alice Fujiwara**; in second place, **Honeyjean Katsarsky** and **Cedric Chong**; the grand champions who came in with a net score of 135 beating the high score by 28 strokes were **Gordon Cho** and **Bob Kozuki**. **Bob Kozuki** had the lowest net score of the entire group. Congratulations **Bob** and all the other winners! For the rest of us, who also ran, won no money, but are mentioned in this report are **Dick Towne**, **Len Katsarsky**, **Ken Yamada**, **Ken Munechika**, **Chuck McCauley**, **Stan Furukawa**, **Mel Soong**, **Joe Kuroda**, and **Yoshi Nakamura**.

Please note that there were only two wahine players and they both won part of the mega jackpot. I hope that will be an incentive for other wahine to note, you can be raking in mega jackpot money by joining the Aloha Chapter Golf players.

Our next golf outing will be on Monday, June 26th at Leilehua Golf Course, yo'all come now, yo' hear!

Aloha,
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 info, contact Gordon Cho, Vernon Von or any chapter officer.



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SCHOLARSHIP GRANT RECIPIENTS LUNCHEON

As announced in the May issue of our newsletter, Na Leo O Na Koa, the scholarship recipients' luncheon is around the corner at 12:00 noon on June 15, 2006, at the Hale Ikena located at Fort Shafter. Please make your reservations by June 10, 2006.

Four scholarship recipients will be our luncheon guests to accept their well-earned scholarship grants. They are Ms **Akeyo Garcia** and Ms **Jill Yablonski** working toward a teaching career; Ms. **Vernalyn Aglubug** is working toward a nursing career; and Ms. **Maria Gaff** yearns for a military career.

Our program will also include a presentation by United States Attorney **Edward H. Kubo, Jr.**, whose topic will be "Drug Awareness and Identity Theft"—very timely subjects.

If you have not made your reservations, please do so NOW and not later than June 10, 2006 by using the form on this page. The buffet lunch is \$15 per person. Should you have questions, please contact **Howard S. Okada**, Vice Chairman, Aloha Chapter Scholarship Fund, by e-mail at okadahs@lava.net or by phone at 523-9026. See you on June 15!

ALOHA CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Annual Scholarship Luncheon
12:00 Noon, Thursday, June 15, 2006
Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter

Name: _____

Spouse or Guest(s) Name(s): _____

Address: _____

I (we) will attend the luncheon at \$15 per person: _____ \$: _____
number of persons total cost

Please make your check payable & mail to: Aloha Chapter, Scholarship Fund MOAA
P.O. Box 1927
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

Membership Application

Name _____

Branch of Service _____

Rank _____

Retired Active Former

Reserve National Guard Auxiliary*

Ad-
dress _____

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.

Want to Know More About FEMA?

Our chapter member, Col. John Seely, USA, retired, was called by FEMA to serve in Florida in 2004 and 2005. He will explain what he did in Florida after the several hurricanes hit and the aftermath. John will answer questions after his talk.

The luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, July 13, at the Tree Tops Restaurant in Manoa, beginning at 11:30AM. Cost of the buffet lunch is \$11.00. This should be a very interesting talk. Please look for the reservation form in our July issue.

Add these Websites to your "Favorites"

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

<http://www.moaa.org>

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

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