

Na Leo O Na Koa

(Voices of Warriors)



2006 Chapter Rating



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

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Chartered January 27, 2000

December 2007

Caroling at VA's Center For Aging

Chapter members and spouses are invited to participate in the annual visit to the VA's Center For Aging (CFA) for Christmas caroling, beginning at 10 AM on Thursday, December 13th. As we've seen over many years, this 60-bed, long-term care facility for veterans will resound with Christmas carols sung by chapter members and spouses as they slowly walk through its corridors bringing joy and well wishes not only to all veterans residing there but to its staff members as well.

Coordinating this Community Service project is committee Chair **Sam Heard**. He has already received quite a bit of help from our *Merrie Ladies*, who recently met to fabricate miniature Christmas wreaths which will be presented to each CFA resident (see article on Page 3). As in previous years' caroling at CFA, leading the group in singing, hopefully, will be **Rosa Baysa** along with her husband, member **Norberto Baysa** with his rhythmic tambourine.



Pausing while making miniature Christmas wreaths for our veterans, Mazie Kozuki, Marion Von and Anna Blackwell, proudly show off their handiwork. Lisa Crompton is in the background.

All members and spouses are encouraged to participate in this final community service project for 2007. A good singing voice is definitely not required. Join your friends for a morning of good fun, entertainment and self-satisfaction which awaits all volunteers.

Scholarship Fund Progress Report

Over forty-five Aloha Chapter members have donated more than \$3500 to the Academic Year 2008–2009 Aloha Chapter Scholarship Fund.

This is a great response in less than a month since the donation campaign was initiated. The Scholarship Fund Committee looks forward to the full participation of the membership and appreciates your donations to our annual Scholarship Fund drive.



Chapter Christmas Party

Our Aloha Chapter's annual Christmas party will be held at the Hale Koa Hotel again this year, but it will be under the auspices of our chapter's Program Committee rather than the Scholarship Fund. A festive evening of Christmas cheers and singing of carols will be the highlight of our gathering on Wednesday, December 12th, and the traditional "gift exchange" will bring it to a close.

A complete sit-down dinner featuring chicken and mahi-mahi will be sure to satisfy everyone attending. Preceding the main course will be a Hearts of Romaine salad. This delicious meal will be concluded with a refreshing Tiramisu dessert. The total cost of the dinner will be \$30 per person. A no-host bar will be set up in the foyer.

All attendees are asked to bring a

See Party Page 7

Inside December Issue

Annual Member Meeting	4
Bridge Report	5
Calendar	2
Chapter Leaders	8
Chapter Policies	2
Community Services	3
Golf Report	6
<i>Merrie Ladies</i>	3
President's Report	2
Reservation Form	7
Shingles	7
Veterans' Day Ceremony	5

President's Message

By Les Ihara

This will be my final message since I had decided to "pass the baton" to a yet unknown person who will be your Aloha Chapter president next year. My best wishes to the member who assumes this increasingly time and energy consuming chapter leadership position.



I believe we added value to chapter membership the past 11 months by offering our members and spouses a variety of programs and/or activities every month of the year. Variety was an important ingredient to our offerings, hoping for maximum appeal and, knowing that success was dependent upon its acceptance and participation by a high percentage of our total membership, I think we touched the lives of the majority of our members with that approach; I hope to quantify that as the outgoing President in my message in the 2008 Membership Directory.

Our efforts would not have been a success if it were not for the many who stepped forward to assist in planning and executing those programs and activities. I would especially like to thank my other chapter officers—**VP Larry Enomoto** and **Secretary Gordon Cho** and my committee chairmen **Sam Heard**, Community Services; **Ira Tagawa**, Government/Legislative Affairs; **Gordon Cho**, Membership; **Bob Kozuki**, Personal Affairs; **Mark Webster**, Publications/PR; and **Wes Fong**, ROTC/Veterans Affairs—and those who were instrumental in the success of some of our other programs, specifically, **Norm Fujiwara**, Golf Program; my wife **Shirley**, Party Bridge Program; and **Herb Nakagawa**, Fundraising.

There are two remaining chapter activities this year for which I would urge your participation. The first is our chapter's annual Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 12th, at the Hale Koa Hotel. This climactic end to our chapter-year promises good food and Christmas cheer and spirit, with group singing of carols and the exchanging gifts. The second activity occurs the next morning. It is the annual Christmas caroling at the VA's Center For the Aging (CFA) when we again bring Christmas spirit and cheer to the many

resident veterans. Please refer to the front-page articles in this newsletter for the details and plan to join us for both events. You'll be glad you did!

Finally, my wife, **Shirley**, and I want to thank all of you—members and spouses—for helping us make our chapter a success this year. We wish all of you a very merry Christmas and happy, healthy and safe New Year!

Aloha,
Les Ihara



New Chapter Policies Adopted

The Board of Directors adopted two new chapter policies recently. They are:

Chapter Shirt Policy, which authorizes the Executive Committee to procure an Aloha Chapter Shirt for wear by chapter members and/or spouses. It was also authorized to procure an embroidered and/or hard copy chapter logo for wear on jackets, blazers, headgear, or a shirt. Chapter shirts are not to exceed \$40 per shirt and chapter funds not to exceed \$50 each for the shirt and logo were authorized.

Chapter Memento/Mahalo Gift Policy, which authorizes the BOD to expend chapter funds to procure Mahalo Gifts for presentation to those who serve as Directors, Officers, or Committee Chairs for a minimum of one calendar year.



Welcome to Our New Member Tom Marzec, LCDR, USN, Ret.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 6, 2007 (Thursday)	9:00 AM, Excom Meeting, Denny's Restaurant, Pearlridge Shopping Center, Aiea
Dec. 12, 2007 (Wednesday)	6:00 PM, Chapter Christmas Party, Hale Koa Hotel
Dec. 13, 2007 (Thursday)	10 AM, Christmas Caroling at VA Center For Aging (CFA) on the grounds of TAMC
Dec. 16, 2007 (Sunday)	5 PM, Party Bridge and Annual Potluck Dinner, Ihara Residence, Kaneohe
Dec. 21, 2007	Golf Outing, Navy-Marine GC, Pearl Harbor

Notice

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



Season's Greetings from the Hale Koa Hotel

We invite you to Experience Our Paradise and join us as we celebrate the Holidays with free performances throughout December and a variety of Holiday Dining Events

For more information on our Holiday Events, please visit www.halekoa.com or call The Activities Desk at (808)955-0555 ext.546

HALE KOA HOTEL
Fort DeRussy Armed Forces Recreation Center
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The Hale Koa Hotel welcomes active and retired military personnel, current and retired Department of Defense civilian employees, Reserve and National Guard members, dependents and sponsored guests.



Community Services Initiatives

The Executive Committee (Excom) authorized an increase in the Community Services Committee's expenditure budget so that the following monetary donations could be made before the end of the year:

\$300 was donated to the Oahu Veterans' Center (OVC) in support of its First Annual Fundraiser/Veterans Appreciation Day on Saturday, November 17th. The OVC conducted day-long activities on that day which included entertainment, featuring popular local entertainer Melveen Leed, and lots of food and refreshments. Although several tickets for purchase for that event at \$20 each were received by the chapter, the Excom opted to donate the \$300 rather than purchase those tickets so the OVC will receive their full monetary benefit.

\$200 was authorized for donation to each of the two Armed Forces YMCA—one at Pearl Harbor and the other at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base Hawaii—for their use in providing a "home-away-from-home" to active duty sailors and marines.

Merrie Ladies Support Veterans

On Monday, November 5th, the *Merrie Ladies* met at the Gyotaku Restaurant in Waimalu for a day of food, fellowship and crafting. **Mazie Kozuki, Evelyn Ono, Rowena Okita** and **Shirley Ihara** coordinated this activity for the group. After a delicious Japanese lunch, the ladies spent the rest of the afternoon decorating miniature Christmas wreaths for the VA's Center For Aging (CFA). These wreaths will be given to each patient when the chapter meets at CFA on December 13th for the annual Christmas caroling. The ladies enjoyed winding tinsel, tying bows and gluing small decorations on the wreaths. A small Christmas tag with the Aloha Chapter Logo was tied to each of the 60 wreaths needed for the patients. In appreciation, **Mazie** presented every volunteer with her own small handcrafted eyelash wreath to wear.

Many thanks to the ladies who attended this event and completed the lovely wreaths. Please come and join us and other chapter members for the caroling event on Thursday, December 13th. Every voice is needed and your caroling will be much appreciated by the patients.



New Board Members Elected & Chapter Bylaws Amendments Approved

At the annual General Membership Meeting held on November 15th at the Oahu Veterans' Center, **Vernon Von**, one of the members of the Nominating Committee appointed by the Board of Directors, made its report, citing only those for positions for which nominees were requested. **BG Clarence Agena** and **COL Walter Kinoshita** were nominated for the two Army positions and **LCDR Mark Webster** was nominated for the one Navy position on the Board of Directors. Attendees were asked if there were any other nominations, but there were none, so these three nominees were elected outright. Congratulations to them on their election to two-year terms as members of the BOD. They join hold-over Directors **COL Joseph Magaldi, USMC**, **LTCOL Leroy Perry, USAF**, **BG Haruo Shigezawa, USA**, and **Anna Blackwell**, Auxiliary, as the chapter's policy-making leadership team for 2008.

The proposed amendments to the Aloha Chapter Bylaws, as submitted by the Bylaws Committee headed by **Larry Enomoto**, were approved by the members—a copy of which will appear in the 2008 Directory. Then, another matter addressed was a Resolution in support of a commemorative US Postal Service Stamp honoring the Japanese-American servicemen who fought so valiantly during World War II. After a brief discussion period, the Resolution was approved without opposition. Chapter President **Les Ihara** will dispatch a letter to the US Postal Service's Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee with the adopted Resolution enclosed.

Before the meeting adjourned, President **Ihara** offered those present an opportunity for announcements. **LTG Allen Ono**, Chairman of the Aloha Chapter Scholarship Fund Board of Trustees, made an appeal for donations to our Scholarship Fund. (The latest update on its status is on page 1 of this newsletter.) Community Services Chair **Sam Heard** explained to everyone about the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific's "Docent Program." Soon the chapter may be asking members to support this program at Punchbowl. In conclusion, President **Ihara** thanked the *Merrie Ladies*, led by **Evelyn Ono**, for making small Christmas wreaths which will be given to the veterans at the VA's Center For Aging (CFA) on December 13th when a contingent of our chapter Christmas carolers serenades them.

This annual General Membership Dinner Meeting was attended by 43 members, spouses and guests who enjoyed a delicious catered meal consisting of teriyaki beef, sweet-sour shrimp, and baked chicken served with steamed rice, macaroni-potato salad, Caesar salad and, finally, a sheet cake for dessert.

The entire evening's activities would not have been successful and even possible were it not for the many members and spouses who helped **Shirley** and **Les Ihara** with picking up the food from the caterer, serving it, and then cleaning up afterwards. A hearty MAHALO to them all!



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Add these Websites to your "Favorites"

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

Aloha Chapter Party Bridge

Hosted by **Anna Blackwell** and **Dan Matthews**, five tables of party bridge were played on Sunday afternoon, November 18th.

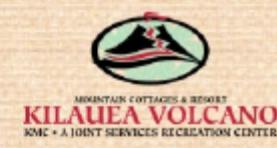
The hosts provided assorted sandwiches, fresh vegetables and fruits with cookies and a variety of soft drinks for the enjoyment of the 20 bridge players who gathered at the Fahrni Realty classroom for the last monthly bridge session for bridge year 2007.

The scores were exceptionally high this month with a total of seven slams bid and made, with **Jane Miller**, the top scorer, amassing 7670 points. Other top finishers recognized were, in descending order, **Mel Kuwamoto**, **Harold Lee** (guest), **Les Ihara**, **Vernon Von** and **Helen Fahrni**, all scoring over 5,000 points. Slams were made by the following partners: **Jane Miller–Harold Lee** (2); **Les Ihara–Harriet Weissman**; **Les Ihara–Anna Blackwell**; **Vernon Von–Jane Miller**; **Helen Fahrni–Lois Luehring**; and **Helen Fahrni–Ken Carroll**. The above mentioned bridge players (minus **Ken Carroll**) are shown in the photo to the right > > > .

Other players enjoying party bridge were: **Lia Carroll**, **Len Fahrni**, **Helen Hubbell**, **Shirley Ihara**, **Edy Kuwamoto**, **Dave Seated, L to R; Dan Matthews, L ue h r i n g , Anna Blackwell, and Vernon Von Marion Von, Standing, L to R: Helen Fahrni, Phyllis Williams Jane Miller, Mel Kuwamoto, and guests Gerri Hal Lee, and Les Ihara Lee and Hazel Theodore.**

The first party bridge session for bridge-year 2008 will be held at the Ihara residence on Sunday, December 16th with an evening of good food, fun, and fellowship provided. Presentation of the Aloha Chapter Bridge Player of The Year Award for 2007 will be made that evening to the player with the highest total score during the last 7 months of the 12 months ending in November, 2007. Those interested in playing are asked to inform **Les** or **Shirley Ihara** NLT Monday, December 10th by calling 239-7947 or by e-mail to: lsi@hawaii.rr.com.





Happy Holidays!

From the Staff and Management Kilauea Military Camp

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Veterans Day Ceremony

Aloha Chapter was visibly represented at the annual Veterans Day ceremony at the State Veterans' Cemetery on Sunday, November 11th, by your chapter president **Les Ihara** and vice president **Larry Enomoto**. Also seen were several other members of Aloha Chapter, namely **Ben Acohido**, **Irwin Cockett**, **Ed Cruikshank**, **Eugene Imai**, **Vernon Miyagi**, **Walter Ozawa**, **Dave Peters**, and **Shigeru Tsubota**.

This year's presentation of organizational floral lei was conducted differently than in previous years. Instead of a member of the organization carrying its flag, a cadet from the Hawaii National Guard's Youth Challenge Program, was assigned to carry each organization's flag that walked forward alongside its lei presenter to the lei stand where na lei were hung. Photo at right shows chapter President **Les Ihara** with a lei and **Cadet Tiade Smith** holding the chapter flag.



Norm Fujiwara

November Golf Report

After experiencing the adventures of Space-A travel with Joe Kuroda, I thought I had attained the ability to handle myself in an adverse situation. As for me the most adverse situation is having rain

on our golf outing. Well, on Sunday evening before our golf outing at Malama Bay GC on November 19th, I heard the patter of raindrops on our window so I stepped out on our porch and noticed not only rain but an overcast sky with awfully dark clouds. I told myself you can handle this situation and thought I was cool, except the hair on the back of my neck felt like the bristles of a steel brush.

When I woke up Monday morning and saw a clear blue sky, I merrily had breakfast and left home early because the newscaster on television said there was a terrible back up on H1 at Pearl City. However, as I arrived in the area, I found the traffic heavy but moving, so I arrived at Hickam AFB a lot earlier than I had expected.

Again, several players had the same idea and arrived at the golf course earlier than I did. When I went to pay my green fees, I learned that one player had informed the starter than he could not make it and an-

other player who was in the first group to tee off said he would be late. So, they asked if we could start early, about 25 minutes before our scheduled time. I told the starter that I was short couple of players and that I need to wait until they arrived. Fortunately, they both showed up just prior to the first group's tee time, so we went off on schedule.

We had thirteen players, a season low, and nada a wahine player. We had two wahine players booked to play, but they both cancelled out.

The group was small but had the spirit of the UH Warriors two-minute drill vs. Fresno State. Judging from the scores posted, we must have been spirited with more than our usual number of strokes for most of the players. Our scores were not desirable scores, but at least the weather held out really well.

Now for the mega-jackpot winners: coming in third place was the team of **Cedric Chong** and **Bob Kozuki**. In second place, with a score of five strokes better than the third place team, was the team of **Ken Yamada** and **Marvin Baum**. In first place, the grand champions, with a score of thirteen strokes better than the second place team, was the team of **Ira Tagawa** and **Gordon Cho**. The remainder of us who showed up were **Howard Okada**, **Joe Kuroda**, **Ken Munechika**, **Larry Enomoto**, **Stan Furukawa**, **John Holmes**, **Vernon Von**, and yours truly.

Now for our thought of the day, "Conceit is an odd disease; it makes everyone sick but the one who has it".

Next month is our Aloha 2007 golf-season outing. It is scheduled on Friday, December 21st, at the Navy Marine GC at Pearl Harbor. Let's have a good turnout with lots of wahine players.

Aloha and Good Golfing,

Norm



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Recruit A New Member!

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 at least one new member in 2007. For more information, contact **Gordon Cho** or **Les Ihara** or any other member.

Party (Cont.)

Christmas gift of at least \$5 in value for participation in the "gift exchange." And, since this a Christmas party in a nice hotel, attendees are asked to be dressed for the occasion and to be prepared for an evening of fun, fellowship and entertainment. Prizes for a variety of activities planned will be awarded, so come and have fun and be rewarded with a prize.

Since this is a sit-down dinner, reservations and checks must be received by Thursday, December 6th because the hotel has to have an accurate count to prepare the necessary food items. So, send in your Reservation Form to the right >> along with your check right away.

Aloha Chapter, MOAA**RESERVATION FORM****Annual Christmas Party Dinner****6:00 PM, Wednesday, December 12, 2007****Entrée: Chicken and Mahi-Mahi****Christmas Carols and Gift Exchange and Prizes and Fellowship****Hale Koa Hotel****2055 Kalia Road, Honolulu, HI 96815**

Member: _____ Spouse: _____

Guest(s): _____ Transportation _____ (Check if needed)

Cost = \$30.00 per person. _____ x \$30.00 = Total \$ _____

Please send in your reservation to arrive NLT Thursday, December 6, 2007 to:

Checks Payable to: Aloha Chapter, MOAA
 Mailing Address: P. O. Box 19267
 Honolulu, HI 96817

Call Les Ihara at 728-9450 for more information, if needed

Shingles Vaccine Available, Covered by TRICARE

Effective October 19, 2007, TRICARE covers the herpes zoster vaccine known as Zostavax, the vaccine designed to prevent shingles for beneficiaries age 60 and older. Shingles, a painful nerve-ending rash that can sometimes have serious complications, often occurs in the elderly who had childhood chicken pox.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends a single dose of the vaccine to reduce the incidence of shingles—even for patients who have experienced prior episodes of this viral disease.

For most TRICARE For Life (TFL) beneficiaries, TRICARE will be the primary payer because Medicare covers the shingles vaccine under Medicare Part D. TFL beneficiaries can get the shingles vaccine from any TRICARE-authorized provider, such as Tripler and the VA Clinic.

For more information on shingles and the vaccine, visit the [CDC Web site](#).

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

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

Recruiter/Sponsor Name

CHECK APPLICABLE BOXES**STATUS**

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 National Guard

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Former Officer

Auxiliary (check Rank and Service of Spouse in space above)

National MOAA Member:

SERVICE

US Army
 USAF
 US Navy
 USCG
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 USPHS
 NOAA

MOAA No.: _____

Revised: May 2005. All prior forms obsolete.

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



MOAA Seal

Aloha Chapter



Awards

- * 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
- * 2005 5-Star Chapter
- * 2006 4-Star Chapter**

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Robert R. Deibler, USN	488-9654 mibobhi@aol.com
Joseph M. Magaldi, Jr., USMC	222-2013 italiahawaii@hotmail.com
Leroy T. Perry, USAF	839-7123 ftrpilot@hawaii.rr.com
Haruo Shigezawa, USA	395-1382

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Vice Pres.—Larry Enomoto	685-1521 lawrence.enomoto@gmail.com
Secretary—Gordon Cho	484-2400 gcho440443@aol.com

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Govt/Legislative Affairs:	Ira Tagawa, 487-5448, itagawa@yahoo.com
Membership:	Gordon Cho, 484-2400, gcho440443@aol.com
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