

Nā Leo O Nā Koa

(Voices of Warriors)



2005 Chapter Rating



Chartered January 27, 2000

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

Volume No. 8, Issue No. 2

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

February 2007

8th Charter Night Dinner and Installation Ceremony

A total of 52 chapter members, spouses and guests attended the 8th Charter Night dinner meeting at Hale Ikena on Thursday, January 25th. The dinner was an all-you-can-eat buffet which was plentiful and delicious. After dinner, the 8th Charter Night cake was cut ceremoniously by both the outgoing President **Vernon Von** and incoming President **Les Ihara**.

Immediate Past Board Chair **Jerry Lesperance** and Outgoing President **Vernon Von** presented *Mahalo Mementos* of monkeypod bowls to those chapter leaders present who opted not to continue in leadership positions.

After **Vernon Von** passed the gavel over to Incoming President **Les Ihara**, **Les** made an acceptance speech. He ended by saying "thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as the Chapter President and Chairman of the Board of Directors."

The first order of business was a call for ratification of the Board's appointment of **BG Haruo Shigezawa** as a Director replacing **Curtis Lee**, who resigned soon after he was elected for a 2-year term. The call for a vote of ratification was without opposition.

President **Les Ihara** then introduced the Guest Speaker and Installation Official, **BG John Y.H. Ma**, who until recently was the Commanding General, 9th Regional Readiness Command, Pacific Army Reserve, with a short resume of his career. **BG Ma**, with the help of Immediate past Board Chair **Jerry Lesperance**, installed the incoming Directors, and with the help of Board Vice Chair **Joe Magaldi**, installed the chapter officers and Committee Chairs.

BG Ma then made a short presentation which addressed the Army Reserve in general and the Pacific Army Reserves specifically, including possible changes to come in the near future. **BG Ma** was presented with a Chapter Mug in appreciation for his services at the meeting.

Before the meeting was adjourned, the inaugural *Lucky Member* drawing was held for a cash prize of \$25; the member's name that was drawn was **Ben Acohido**, but he was not present, so that amount will be carried forward to the next meeting in March. The meeting ended with those present holding hands and singing Hawaii Aloha. **Les**



Inside February Issue

Board of Directors	2
Bridge	5
Calendar	2
Chapter Leaders	8
Society Of Seven	7
Golf	6
Legislative Affairs	4
Merrie Ladies	3
President's Report	2
Twining	5

President's Message

By Les Ihara



We began chapter year 2007 with the 8th Carter Night dinner meeting at Hale Ikena attended by 58 members, spouses and guests. It was a great start of a new year – a year for which your Executive Committee is about to complete planning the chapter activities. It will be active, varied, and hopefully interesting enough to get members to participate with their spouses and invited guests.

With Valentines Day, February 14th, falling on a Wednesday, we opted to extend the meaning and spirit of that day to the next day for a take-your-spouse-out-for-an-evening-of-good-food-and-fellowship-and-fun-and-entertainment event by scheduling a greatly discounted Society Of Seven (SOS) Dinner Show at the Outrigger Waikiki Hotel. I hope you will be able to celebrate a late Valentine's Day with your "love of your life" and fellow chapter members and their loved ones. Please see the article on the SOS Dinner Show on page 7 of this newsletter and sign up quickly. We have a short fuse this month!

We are planning a more serious subject in March with a guest speaker from the Alzheimer Association enlightening us on what Alzheimer's Disease is, what can be done to minimize it's occurrence, how it should be treated, and how to care for someone with that disease. We thought that Alzheimer's Disease is something we need to know as much about since it is a common but not an easily discernable affliction which touches the lives of many who are our member's and spouses' ages.

Although it is over 6 months from now, the Twinning Program in Las Vegas, which "straddles" the UH-UNLV Football game on September 15th, associated tour packages are already being booked. If you are interested in joining in the Twinning activities being developed by the Southern Nevada Chapter in Las Vegas, please see the Twinning article on page 5.

We hope to publish future chapter activities as far in advance as we can so that we can facilitate your personal plans, hopefully around them, to maximize membership participation. However, we are not "mind-readers", so please contact me or any member of the Board or Executive Committee if you have any comments or recommendations.

I look forward to a joyful and memorable 2007. 

Director Appointed

With a unanimous vote via e-mail, all members of the Board of Directors voting, BG Haruo Shi-gezawa has been appointed to a 2-year term effective immediately as the Army member to the Board. This appointment was subsequently ratified by the members present at the Charter Night/Installation Dinner meeting on January 25th. His term will end at the end of 2008. 

Congratulations to Our New Life Members

Samuel R. Heth, COL, USA, Ret.

Gerald J. Silva, COL, USA, Ret.

Welcome to Our New Members

Vincent E. Barfield, CDR, USNR

Don C. Matthews, LCOL, USAF, Ret.

John A. Steelquist, LCOL, USAF, Ret.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 13, 2007 (Tuesday)	2:00 PM, Board of Directors Meeting, Oahu Veterans' Center, Foster Village
Feb 15, 2007 (Thursday)	9:00 AM, Excom Committee Meeting, Lobby, Colonnade on the Green, Aiea
Feb 15, 2007 (Thursday)	6:45 PM, Society of Seven Ali'i Buffet, Outrigger Waikiki Hotel Main Showroom
Feb 18, 2007 (Sunday)	1:00 PM, Bridge Group Party, Recreation Room, Colonnade on the Green, Aiea
Feb 26, 2007 (Monday)	8:17 AM, Golf Outing, Leilehua Golf Club, Wahiawa
March 15, 2007 (Thursday)	12 Noon, Luncheon Meeting, Speaker on Care Giving, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's

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.

Enjoy an Evening of Memories this Valentine's

The Hale Koa Hotel is offering a variety of ways to wine and dine your sweetheart this Valentine's Day

Experience the elegance and romance of our signature restaurant, the Hale Koa Room, with an exquisite menu, extensive wine list and superb service

Or journey through Polynesia with Chief Tama and his hulanani dancers. Tama's Polynesian Revue offers an exciting evening of Polynesian song & dance and a delicious International Buffet

If you're looking for a casual evening for two, join us at the Kokyo Cafe or Bibas Restaurant. Then relax at the Barefoot Bar for cocktails by moonlight.

For more information or to make reservations, call the Activities Desk at (808)955-0555 ext. 546. Reservations for The Hale Koa Room and Tama's Polynesian Revue begin January 15, 2007



HALE KOA HOTEL
FORT DERUSSY ARMED FORCES RECREATION CENTER
2055 KALIA ROAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96815
(808)955-0555 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.

Join the Merrie Ladies in February

On February 12th the *Merrie Ladies* will visit the University of Hawaii Medical School at their new Kakaako campus. Greg Takeyama will conduct this free tour and give the ladies the opportunity to learn more about this world-class facility. We will meet in the lobby of the medical school at 9:45 AM and the tour will begin at 10:00 AM. Please park in the lot at the ewa side of the medical center. There is a flat rate of \$2.00 for parking. After



touring the facility, we will eat lunch in the cafeteria which is located in the same building. The cafeteria is run by the staff of

the Kapiolani Community College Culinary Arts Department; we hear they offer a wide variety of dishes that are both delicious and reasonable. Come and join the *Merrie Ladies* for this exciting and educational event.

For more information and to sign up for this activity, call **Charlene Towne** at 623-9731 or **Nari Hamlin** at 486-7150 by Friday, February 9th.

Referral Bonus Doubles to \$2000.

Soldiers (except recruiters), members of the Future Soldier Training Program and retirees can now earn \$2,000 for referring their acquaintances to Army recruiters, if such referrals result in an enlistment. Immediate family members do not qualify for this referral bonus, which expires the end of this year.

To receive the \$2,000 referral bonus, the person making the referral must provide the name of the applicant using this process prior to the applicant's appointment with an Army recruiter. For more information, go to www.usarec.army.mil/smart or call 1-800-223-3735 ext. 6-0473.

Legislative Affairs

The Office of Veterans' Services has obtained funding to build niches at all state veterans cemeteries. I know none of you are planning to die soon, but the National Memorial Cemetery at Punchbowl has niches to last only 4 more years. There are no plans to build a new columbarium at Punchbowl.

Over on the Big Island, construction progresses on the new Yukio Okutsu Veterans Home on the campus of the Hilo Medical Center. This modern facility overlooks scenic Hilo Bay, and is scheduled to open this summer. It will be named after World War II Medal of Honor winner Yukio Okutsu, a distinguished soldier of the famous 442d Regimental Combat Team.

With Democrats now in control of both houses of congress, there may very well be new legislation concerning veterans' benefits. Keep an eye on the MOAA magazine and the online news exchange to

keep abreast of pending actions, especially those that attempt to erode our hard-earned benefits.

The next issue will highlight legislation on military issues being considered by the 2007 Hawaii State Legislature.

Ira 

Personal Affairs

The following Casualty Assistance Information was taken in its entirety from the Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS) Retired Pay Newsletter, 2006 At-a-Glance.

Casualty Assistance Information:

When a retiree dies, the retired pay stops and the designated beneficiary or next of kin is entitled to those days of pay during the month up to the date of death. Listed below are a few pointers on how to decrease the amount of time it can take to process this payment and assist the beneficiary through this trying time.

Keep the beneficiary data for arrears of pay up to date. For example if a retiree has a former spouse and has not updated the beneficiary information, the former spouse will receive all pay that is due at the time of death.

Ensure the beneficiary or next of kin has the casualty number (1-800-269-5170) and reports the death immediately. They must also report the death to all concerned agencies, for example VA, Social Security, Insurance agencies, and any other agency that would have a vested interest in the beneficiary. There is very limited information exchanged between government agencies.

Upon notification of death, the retiree's beneficiary or next of kin will receive an SF 1174 and a request for a Certificate of Death (COD). The SF 1174 must be completely filled out, ensuring all people entitled to the arrears of pay are identified with their names, addresses, and phone numbers and the form is signed and witnessed. There must be a COD.

Anna 

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: Troops to Teachers at 586-4054
Neighbor Islands call 1-800-420-3688
E-mail: hawaiiitt@notes.k12.hi.us
Or go to www.proudtoserveagain.com



Troops to Teachers



Add these Websites to your "Favorites"

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

<http://www.moaa.org>

Aloha Chapter Party Bridge

The January Party Bridge Session was held at the home of **Helen** and **Len Farhni** on Sunday afternoon, January 21st. There were four tables of bridge with 15 members and spouses, and one guest.

The top scorer for the session was **Lois Luehring**, followed by guest **Hazel Theodore**, **Edy Kuwamoto**, **Les Ihara**, and **Ken Carroll**. **Edy** and **Hazel** also bid and made a small slam.

Others participating were: **Anna Blackwell**, **Lia Carroll**, **Helen** and **Len Farhni**, **Helen Hubbell**, **Shirley Ihara**, **Dave Luehring**, **Mel Kuwamoto**, **Marion** and **Vernon Von**, and **Harriet Weissman**.

Before play began, Bridge Coordinator **Shirley Ihara** presented **Len** and **Helen Farhni**, owners of Farhni Realty, an electronic wall clock in appreciation of their generosity for making their classroom available for bridge sessions without charge ever since the program began in 2004. On behalf of all the bridge players, committee member **Marion Von** also presented them with a package of "tissue paper" for their restroom.

The next bridge session will be held at the Recreation room of the Colonnade on the Green on Sunday, February 18th. The session will begin at 1 PM and will be hosted by **Sam Heard** and **Helen Hubbell**. Chapter members and/or spouses who are interested in playing but who have not yet signed up to play should contact either host or **Shirley Ihara** NLT Wednesday, February 14th. 

Twinning Program

Aloha Chapter will be visiting the Southern Nevada Chapter located in Las Vegas in September 2007 to complete the 2nd round of the Twinning Program which was formalized in 2002. This visit will be in conjunction with the football game between UH & UNLV on Saturday, September 15th

Although twinning activities have not been announced, they will be a joint dinner-meeting, probably on Friday the 14th, with golfing in the morning for those interested and probably a tour



MOUNTAIN COTTAGES & RESORT
KILAUEA VOLCANO
 KMC • A JOINT SERVICES RECREATION CENTER
 Proudly Serving America's Military Since 1916

Winter in Hawaii Means KMC!

If you yearn for cooler temperatures during this time of the year, then come experience the Hawaiian chill at Kilauea Military Camp (KMC)!

This timeless Hawaiian resort just for the military offers great accommodations, dining, tours, and recreational activities right in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park on the Big Island of Hawaii. Ask about the Wild Ginger Room and Tour Packages!

Make your reservations today! Rates start at \$63 and up per night per unit. Select units feature a Jacuzzi and/or kitchen. Call (808) 967-8333 or direct dial from Oahu at 438-6707.
 On-line reservations at www.kmc-volcano.com.

for others. Other activities are pending.

Since the UH-UNLV football game has increased in popularity and travel agencies have already announced various tour packages, which incidentally, are being booked quickly, those who are planning to participate in the Twinning Program are advised to make their own arrangements, keeping in mind that Twinning activities will begin on Friday the 14th and probably end on Monday, September 17th.

Chapter members who are going to the UH-UNLV game anyway are encouraged to participate in the Twinning Program which involves meeting members of the Southern Nevada Chapter at the joint meeting and participating in other activities they will have planned by then.

All chapter members are asked to inform **Les** or **Shirley Ihara** of their intentions to be in Las Vegas during the period of the UH-UNLV football game so that Twinning Program information, when received from Las Vegas, can be disseminated in a timely manner. **Les** 



Norm Fujiwara

Monday, January 29th, was a glorious day for the Aloha Chapter Golfing group. First and foremost, after two months of nada wahine golfers, we had four wahine playing with us, secondly we had three Aloha Chapter members who joined us for the very first time, thirdly, we started our new year's program by playing at the newly renovated Navy-Marine Golf Course at Pearl Harbor and lastly, I had requested six tee times and we had exactly twenty four players or six foursome and all showed up on time. Mahalo!

The three members of Aloha Chapter who made their debut with the golfing group are **Albert Richards**, **Richard Leong** and **Howard Young**. We also had four guests of **Alice** and me, **Norm Fujiwara**, and they were **Kathy Uyeno**, **Stan** and **Grace Wong** and **Dyke Kamai** from Colorado. We came within a cat's whiskers of pulling a grand coup; we had **Shigeru Tsubota** signed up to play with us only to have him cancel out at the very last minute because of a medical appointment. I have been badgering him to join us for couple of years

Aloha Chapter Golf Report For January

and barely missed having him join us on the golf course, maybe next month.

We had wonderful weather on the course today except for a short period of heavy showers, however that dissipated and we were able to continue our game with minimal disruption.

Now for the report on the winners of the mega jackpot: Again, the format was the blind partner format. The fourth place winners was the team of **Ken Munechika** and **Kathy Uyeno**, in third place by seven strokes was the team of **Mel Soong** and **Bob Kozuki**, in second place five strokes was the team of **Howard Okada** and **Howard Young**, in first place the mega jackpot winners was the team of **Vernon Von** and **Albert Richards**, who were a mere two strokes over the second place team. Congratulations to all of the winners.

There were several of us who participated in the mega jackpot but ended empty handed and they included **Dick Towne**, **Larry Enomoto**, **Leroy Perry**, **Richard Leong**, **Cedric Chong**, **Stan** and **Grace Wong**, **Honeyjean Katsarsky**, **Don Dis-muke**, **Ken Yamada**, **Gordon Cho**, **Dyke Kamai**, **Stan Furukawa**, **Marv Baum**, **Alice Fujiwara** and yours truly. Mahalo for participating in the January golf program.

Our next golf outing will be on Monday the 26th of February at the Leilehua Golf Course. A sign-up notice will be e-mailed in a few weeks. **Norm**

Recruit A New Member in 2007!

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**, **Les Ihara** or any other member.

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 meet in 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, army Dept. of Defense personnel, YFW members, and your families are eligible to join. Others are also eligible.

NCUA



SOS

Imagine combining the lush production of a Broadway show with the flashiness of a Las Vegas extravaganza, and adding the slickness of a Hollywood movie with the

in-your-face hilarity and spectacle of a circus!

The Society Of Seven is a one-of-a-kind performance arts group that has been headlining at the Outrigger Waikiki Hotel for thirty-two years and counting. Despite their longevity, this accomplished septet (which has recently spawned a second group, SOS LV) remains as fresh and energetic as the day they began performing. They'll delight you with their trademark spirited mixture of comedy, dancing, Broadway show tunes and popular hits. Hilarious musical skits, visual gags, celebrity impersonations, dazzling choreography, and Vegas-style numbers are par for the course. You've never seen variety until you've seen Hawaii's own SOS.

Not only are you in for a memorable evening when you attend this spectacular must-see show, you will partake of the Ali'i Buffet, an all-you-can-eat buffet featuring prime rib, mahi-mahi and teriyaki chicken, among other scrumptious specialties.

Treat your Valentine to this special event! Join your friends in the Aloha Chapter in a fun evening of being a tourist in Waikiki. We need at least 50 members and guests for this special discount price, which includes the buffet dinner, show admission, cover charge, tax and tip. Also, reduced rate validated parking at the Ohana East Hotel at the corner of Kuhio and Kaiulani Avenues (Fun Factory beside the entrance) is available at \$3 for 4 hours with validation in the Showroom. Please mail the above Reservation Form with your check **right now** for this memorable, festive evening.

RESERVATION FORM
Society Of Seven Ali'i Buffet

Dinner Seating at 6:45 PM, Thursday, February 15, 2007
 (Showtime 8:30 — 10:00 PM)

Outrigger Waikiki Hotel Lobby — Main Showroom
 2335 Kalakaua Avenue (Across from the International Marketplace)

Member: _____ Spouse: _____

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

Cost: \$51.25 per person. _____ x \$51.25 = \$ _____
 (Cocktails and soft drinks are an option to purchase in the Showroom)

This is a Special Discount Package for Aloha Chapter for 50 or more adults!

Because we need to send a confirmed pax count to Outrigger Waikiki ASAP,
 Please send in your reservation to arrive by **Friday, February 9, 2007** to:

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

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="checkbox"/>	<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.

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**

Nonprofit Org
 US Postage Paid
 Honolulu HI

Permit No. 930

2007 Aloha Chapter Leadership

Board of Directors

Les S. Ihara, USA, Chair	239-7947	lsi@hawaii.rr.com
Anna D. Blackwell, AUX	739-9164	annagram2@aol.com
Jack E. Bohman, USA	235-8078	jbohman59@hawaii.rr.com
Robert R. Deibler, USN	488-9654	mibobhi@aol.com
Jerry O. Lesperance, USCG	488-5205	jlesperance@hawaii.rr.com
Joseph M. Magaldi, Jr., USMC	222-2013	italiahawaii@hotmail.com
Leroy T. Perry, USAF	839-7123	ftripilot@hawaii.rr.com

Officers/Executive Committee

President—Les S. Ihara	239-7947	lsi@hawaii.rr.com
Vice Pres.—Larry Enomoto	685-1521	lmggenomoto@yahoo.com
Secretary—Gordon Cho	484-2400	gcho440443@aol.com

Committee Chairs

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

Govt/Legislative Affairs: Ira Tagawa, 487-5448, itagawa@yahoo.com

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

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

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

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