

Nā Leo O Nā Ikoa

(Voices of Warriors)



2005 Chapter Rating

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



Chartered January 27, 2000

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June 2007

NOAA Celebrates 200th Anniversary



To honor the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) during its 200 years of devotion to science, service and stewardship, the guest speaker for our Aloha Chapter's dinner meeting on Thursday, June 21st, will be a uniformed officer from that service.

Our main guest speaker for the dinner meeting will be LT **Kurt Dreflak**, the Honolulu Port Captain, Honolulu Marine Support Facility. His presentation will focus on the varied activities of all Hawaii-based NOAA units and explaining to us what his service does for our country.

Efforts are being made to get a USPHS officer as our other guest speaker to discuss that service's mission, roles, and the duties of their officers, especially in Hawaii.



Enjoy an evening of good food and refreshments at our monthly meeting at the Honolulu Airport Hotel located near the airport and help NOAA celebrate its 200th years of service to our nation. Don't miss this golden opportunity to learn about NOAA and, possibly, the USPHS.

Complete the Reservation Form on page 9 of this newsletter and mail it by Thursday, June 14th.

HAMS Golf Tournament

Volunteers from the Aloha Chapter are again needed to assist with the annual Hawaii Army Museum Society (HAMS) Golf Tournament. The tournament will be on Friday, June 22nd, at the Leilehua Golf Course. Volunteers are needed from 1000 to finish and will receive lunch, a goody bag, and dinner for their assistance. A rewarding time is guaranteed.



COL Gordon Cho, Aloha Chapter, presenting \$600 check to COL Hal Okita, Chair, HAMS Golf Tournament

Because our chapter donated \$600 to HAMS, we became *Patriot Sponsors*, allowing us to sponsor four active duty service members for a round of golf as our guests in the tournament.

If you would like to help, please contact Gordon Cho at 484-2400 or via e-mail at gcho440443@aol.com.

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President's Message

By Les Ihara



As I mentioned several times since our chapter was chartered in January 2000, we who are its leaders should always be trying to “bring the chapter” to its members. That means our programs and activities should be interesting varied and held monthly, with some uniformity, but not be “one sided”, so that “we can touch the lives of as many members and spouses as possible.”

I believe that we have lived up to that concept so far this year. The only exception was last month, when the Executive Committee felt that we were already heavily committed. That's because, besides the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee meetings, and the Party Bridge and Golf programs, the chapter was committed to the Korean and Vietnam War Memorial Clean-Ups on 5 Thursdays in May. In addition, the chapter was committed to participate in Punahou School JROTC Awards ceremony, and the two annual Memorial Day Ceremonies. That was considered a “full plate”, resulting in over 60 chapter members and spouses involved in those activities, albeit some participated multiple times.

A dinner meeting is planned for June 21st with the focus on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) which is celebrating its 200th Anniversary of its existence. It should be an interesting and enlightening meeting for most of us as NOAA representatives discuss their role as another of our nation's uniformed service. In addition, the chapter is heavily involved in the annual Hawaii Army Museum Society (HAMS) annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser, with Chapter members **GEN Herb Wolff**, its founder, **Hal Okita**, Fundraiser Committee Chair, and chapter Rep **Gordon Cho**, spearheading its efforts. I know that our chapter members' participation will heavily determine the success of the golf tournament, but **Gordon** needs a few more volunteers, so contact him ASAP

In July there will be a luncheon meeting on the

19th at which one of our own members, **Joseph “Jumbo Joe” Kuroda** and his associates, will present an interesting and worthwhile session on Space-A Travel. He hopes to enlighten us on the pros and cons and the why of Space-A Travel, a well-earned privilege of active duty and retired military members and their spouses.

Well, we're trying our best to offer programs and activities to maximize participation. But I know there is always room for improvement. I humbly and seriously ask each member and spouse to communicate to me, or any other member of the Excom, your comments and suggestions so that we can jointly develop programs and activities that appeal to you.

I end this message with a hearty “Mahalo” to those who volunteered for the Korean & Vietnam War Memorial Cleanups and a “Super Mahalo” to those who donated food and refreshments that the volunteers enjoyed afterwards.



Welcome to Our New Life Member

Rodney W. Kimura, MAJ, USA, Ret.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 7, 2007 (Thursday)	8:00 AM Breakfast Ad-Hoc By-Laws Committee Meeting, Flamingo Rest., Pearl City
June 10, 2007 (Sunday)	1:00 PM, Party Bridge, Fahrni Realty, Aiea Hosts: Gary and Bev Jensen
June 14, 2007	9:00 AM, Excom Meeting, Colonnade, Aiea
June 21, 2007 (Thursday)	6:00 PM, Dinner Meeting, Honolulu Airport Hotel, guest speakers from NOAA & USPHS
June 22, 2007 (Friday)	9:00 AM, HAMS Golf Tournament, Leilehua Golf Club, Wahiawa
June 25, 2007	8:38 AM, Golf Outing, Leilehua Golf Club
July 8, 2007 (Sunday)	1:00 PM, Party Bridge, Fahrni Realty, Aiea Hosts: Mitzi Austin and Harriet Weissman
July 12, 2007	9:00 AM, Excom Meeting, Colonnade, Aiea
July 19, 2007 (Thursday)	11:00 AM, Luncheon Meeting, Hale Ikena Topic: Space A Travel

The Executive Committee is contemplating a chapter picnic in August. Please offer your suggestions for a date and place

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.

Beat the Heat and Splash into a fun filled Summer at the Hale Koa Hotel

The Hale Koa Hotel invites you to Experience Our Paradise this Summer with a variety of events to keep you cool all Summer long!



June 4 - August 30

The Hale Koa Hotel will be offering the thrills of an ancient Hawaiian tradition three times a week. Experience the Hale Koa Luau every Monday, Wednesday & Thursday evenings in our tropical Luau Garden.



July 9 - July 13

The POiNT Fitness Center offers a great way for keiki who enjoy the water a chance to learn water safety and life saving skills at our Jr. Lifeguard Program. For more information or to sign up for this popular 5 day program, call The POiNT at (808)955-9155.



July 4

Spend the 4th of July with the Hale Koa Hotel. Enjoy the many flavors of our restaurants, sip on a cocktail at the Barefoot Bar, or relax on Ft. DeRussy Beach, a perfect place to witness the 4th of July Fireworks.



HALE KOA HOTEL

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The Hale Koa Hotel welcomes active & retired military personnel, current & retired DoD Civilian employees, Reserve & National Guard members, dependents & sponsored guests.

Merrie Ladies Coffee Break

On May 14th, twenty Merrie Ladies took a tour of the Lion's Coffee Plant in Kalihi. Besides learning what coffee beans were used, the percentage needed to be called Kona blended coffee, how the beans were roasted and blended and watching the packaging machines filling the bags, the ladies discovered the company also packages Hawaiian teas. Lion's Coffee produces coffees and teas under several brand names - Lion's Coffee, Royal Hawaiian Coffee and Hawaiian Natural Tea. They also package coffee and teas for restaurants and hotels. It is a growing industry for our state and employs over 100 people. At the end of the tour, we were able to buy coffees, teas, and merchandise with the Lion logo at a 25% discount. Everyone loves a bargain so it was a nice end to an interesting tour. Thank you Mary Cho.

After our tour, we went to Au's Garden for a fabulous Chinese lunch. During the lunch, the announcement was made about the August event. The Tour of Shangri-la (Doris Duke's mansion in Kahala). As of May 15th, all spaces have been re-

served and 25 men and women will be gathering at the Honolulu Academy of Arts on August 8th for the tour. A wait list is being taken in case there are openings later.



Merrie Ladies and a lion after their tour of Lion Coffee

Add these Websites to your "Favorites"

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

<http://www.moaa.org>

Twinning 2007

During a recent visit to Las Vegas, President **Les Ihara** and his wife **Shirley** met with host Las Vegas Chapter President **Tommy Thompson** and Twinning Coordinator **Jack Taylor** and their wives to discuss plans for Twinning 2007. Their meeting resulted in following schedule of activities:

Fri, Sep 14 - Daytime - Golf at Angel Park; Shopping trip or Tour of Las Vegas area for non-golfers. Evening - Joint meeting at Plaza Hotel beginning at 6 pm

Sat, Sep 15 - Daytime - Golf at Nellis AFB; Tour or shopping for non-golfers. Evening - UH-UNLV Football Game (must be individually arranged).

Sun, Sep 16 - Daytime - Free time. Evening - Cocktail Buffet for Twinning participants and invited Host chapter members at the residence of **Jack and Nancy Taylor**.

To participate in the morning activities on Friday

the 14th, Aloha Chapter members must arrive in Las Vegas sometime the day before. Otherwise, a Friday arrival, preferably in the morning, should be OK for the joint meeting. Departure from Las Vegas should be planned for Monday the 17th at the earliest.

Transportation to and from all Twinning activities will be provided by host chapter members. Therefore, to facilitate their transportation support requirement planning, **Jack Taylor** would like to know ASAP the number of Aloha Chapter participants and where they will be staying in Las Vegas. Also, for planning purposes, Twinning Coordinators **Les & Shirley Ihara** would like to know the names of chapter participants and their travel/lodging/game arrangements.

Those who desire to participate in Twinning 2007 but have not yet made arrangements may contact local tour agencies directly, or contact **Shirley Ihara** who has arranged for a tour package with NonStop Travel. This tour package includes air and ground transportation to and from the Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino, and tickets to the UH-UNLV football game on Saturday, including transportation to and from the game. Please contact **Les** or **Shirley** ASAP by phone at 239-7947 or via e-mail to: lsi@hawaii.rr.com.



Legislative Affairs

The Hawaii State Legislature adjourned on May 3rd. During their session this year, they appropriated funds for the following four capital improvement projects of concern to the military:

1. Improvements to the Hawaii State Veterans' Cemetery at Kaneohe, including road repair, drainage repair, and slope repair above the columbarium.
2. Repairs and improvements to veterans' cemeteries statewide, \$200,000 in FY 2008 and \$1,000,000 in FY 09. This is a substantial increase in funding over prior years.
3. A \$1,000,000 grant-in-aid to the Arizona Memorial Museum Association for replacement of the Visitor Center.
4. Construction for Keaukaha Joint Military Center and Armed Forces Reserve Center on the Big Island utilizing mostly federal funds.



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Troops to Teachers

Annual Cleaning of the Korean/Vietnam War Memorial

Every Thursday during the month of May—as our tribute to Armed Forces Appreciation Month and to honor our Korean and Vietnam War veterans who served America so valiantly during those wars—our Aloha Chapter, MOAA, cleaned the Korean and Vietnam War Memorials on the State Capitol grounds.

Since the dedication of this memorial on July 24, 1994, hundreds of veterans and volunteer groups have maintained these somber War Memorials, sprucing them up once a week for all of the visitors and residents that visit the site. These volunteer groups have pulled weeds, raked leaves, and washed and polished the black marble pedestals inscribed with the names of 766 servicemen from Hawaii killed in action during those two wars.



*Les Ihara, President, Washing the Memorial and
Gordon Cho, Secretary, Drying it with a Blower*



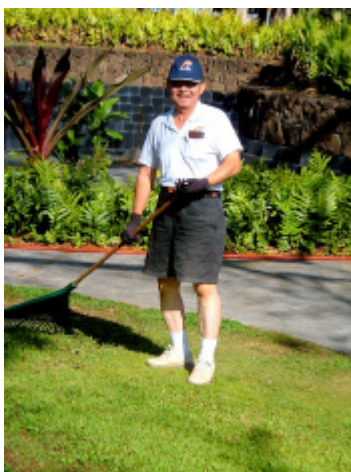
Shirley Ihara Washing Memorial (and her husband)

pride in honoring our fallen war heroes.



Vernon Von Picking up Leaves

Our weekly groups of volunteers finished these easy tasks in about 1½ hours and then gathered for snacks, refreshments and fellowship. Not only was a good time had by all, but everyone had a real heartwarming feeling of accomplishment and



Harold Takenaka, Raking, and Esther Takenaka, Sweeping



*After Cleaning the Korean/Vietnam War Memorial,
our Aloha Chapter Volunteers Relax and Enjoy
Snacks and Refreshments on the State Capitol Grounds*

Aloha Chapter Participates in Memorial Day Ceremonies at Punchbowl and State Veterans' Cemeteries

On Memorial Day, the Monday morning of May 28th, three chapter members—Les Ihara, Wesley Fong and Mark Webster—represented Aloha Chapter by presenting our colors at the Mayor's annual Memorial Day service at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl. His Honor, Mufi Hannemann, eloquently spoke of the dedication and sacrifices of those that we were honoring that day, praising the Scouts who had so beautifully decorated each grave with a flag and lei, the men and women that had paid the ultimate sacrifice in all of the wars since Memorial Day was dedicated after the Civil War, and all of those presently serving in the Armed Forces in these very divisive times. It was a very well planned and executed, moving ceremony.

That afternoon the three retired officers journeyed to the State Veterans' Cemetery in Kaneohe to participate in the Governor's annual Memorial Day ceremony. They presented the chapter colors in the trooping of the colors along with a lei to present in remembrance of all veterans, past and present.



Our Chapter Colors (Among Others) at Punchbowl



Les Ihara, Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann, Mark Webster and Wesley Fong at National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl



Wes Fong, Shirley Ihara, U.S. Representative Mazie Hirono, and Les Ihara at the State Veterans' Cemetery



Mark Webster and Les Ihara presenting our Chapter Flag and a Lei at the State Veterans' Cemetery



The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps providing stirring, synchronized music at the State Veterans' Cemetery

Aloha Chapter Party Bridge

The May session of our Chapter's Party Bridge Program was held on Sunday the 27th at the Fahrni Realty Classroom hosted by **Bill & Trudi Ernst**. There were 4 tables of bridge played, and the high scorers, shown here were, from left to right, front



row, and in descending order: Top scorer - **Shirley Ihara**, 2nd - **Lois Luehring**, 3rd - **Mitzi Austin**, and, back row, 4th - **Gary Jensen**, and 5th - **Bev Jensen**. Other participants were: **Ken & Lia Carroll**, **Bill & Trudi Ernst**, **Len & Helen Fahrni**, **Helen Hubbell**, **Les Ihara**, **Mel & Edy Kuwamoto**, and **Dave Luehring**.

Next month's bridge session will be held a week earlier than normal on Sunday, June 10th, since Fathers' Day falls on the 3rd Sunday. Play will again be at the Fahrni Realty Classroom and will be hosted by **Gary & Bev Jensen**. Those who have not signed up should contact **Gary** or **Bev Jensen** at 623-4296 or e-mail to: gjensen579@msn.com not later than June 6th. Newcomers are welcome!

JROTC AWARDS - ROOSEVELT

On the evening of May 5, 2007, the Roosevelt High School (Roughriders) held their Junior ROTC Awards Banquet at the Japanese Cultural Center in Moiliili. The banquet was attended by about 160 people. All were treated to a very tastefully prepared buffet which was followed by more than fifty awards that were presented by various organizations to deserving JROTC cadets from all classes. Past presi-

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dent of the Aloha Chapter, **Vernon Von**, a Roosevelt graduate, made our presentation of a MOAA medal and citation to Cadet **Bryson Nakamoto** for his superior leadership qualities, academic excellence and high potential for future success in a military career.

JROTC AWARDS - PUNAHOU

Cadets **Patrick Isaacs**, **Monique Tsang** and **Peter Kam**, center front below, were recipients of MOAA Awards and Certificates presented by Punahou graduates, l. to r., **COL Wes Fong**, **LCDR Mark Webster** and **COL Ralph Hiatt** (Hawaii Chapter). Aloha Chapter member LTC **Robert Takao**, far right, is the professor of Military Science at Punahou School.





Norm Fujiwara

May Golf Report

Determining the grouping for this month was sort of touch and go. The last couple of days prior to our outing on Friday, May 25th, players were unable to play after signing up and on the other hand there were those that wished to play and signed up after the deadline for signing up. However, in the end we confirmed 22 players, resulting in couple of groups having only 3 players.

All the players who signed up to play arrived at the Klipper Golf Club, Kaneohe, and were ready to play when the first group was ready to tee off. I was feeling really good about the set up until our foursome was preparing to tee off because "they say that it never rains in Ewa"; well they were wrong because it began to rain, not the heavy rain as you have on the mauka side of the island but sort of a pestering type of rain. However it did not last very long, in fact, as we approached the third hole, the sun was out and the weather was the ideal for golfing. The remainder of the day was wonderful!

Out of the 22 players, we had not one but two wahine golfers. A vast improvement over two months ago when we had nary a wahine golfer; so I guess things are looking good for the Aloha Chapter golf program in attracting more wahine golfers.

The format for this month was the same as before, the blind partner, the winners determined more by luck than skill alone. The golfers do not know who they will partner with until after the game when we draw matching numbers.

Before listing the winners of mega jackpot, the following is a list of contributors to the jackpot: **Allen Ono, Clarence Agena, Dick Towne, Walt Kinoshita, Cedric Chong, Mel Soong, Stan Yasumoto, Jack and Arlene Bohman, Joe Kuroda, Ken Munechika, Ken Yamada, Curtis Lee, and Alice Fujiwara.**

Now for the winners. In third place there was a tie between three teams so we did a tie breaker for the third and fourth place teams. After checking the teams' scores for the first hole and on the second hole, **Stan Yasumoto** and **Ken Munechika** were eliminated and **John Seeley** and **Mike Pang** (my guest) came in fourth, **Ira Tagawa** and **Greg Loo** (my guest) came in third, **John Ma** and yours truly, came in second, and, in first place, was the team of **Ed Lee** and **Don Dismuke.**

Since a number of you non golfers have indicated that you enjoy this column, I thought perhaps I should have something for you. So here's today's thought: "Nothing is so annoying as to have someone go right on talking when you're interrupting."

I wish to thank all of you participants, especially a special thanks to the player who traveled from Novato, California, to join us today, namely **Stan Yasumoto.**

Our next golf outing will be on Monday, June 25th, at Leilehua Golf Course. All you wahine golfers mark this on your calendar; this goes for you kane golfers, too!



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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.

Coast Guard Memorials

The local Coast Guard ohana will be installing two memorials this year. The first at Honiara, Solomon Islands, to honor Signalman First Class **Douglas A. Monroe**, posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for heroically leading a group of Higgins boats to rescue Marines landing at Point Cruz during the brutal Guadalcanal campaign in 1942. The second memorial is proposed to be along the Memorial Walk at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl to honor Coastguardsmen serving in the Pacific during conflicts. (There is no Coast Guard memorial presently along that walk.)

Donations to this cause can be made out to "CG Pacific Veterans' Memorial" and mailed to: Coast Guard Pacific War Veterans Memorial Fund, c/o Hawaiian Islands Chapter CPOA, USCG ISC Base, 400 Sand Island Parkway. Honolulu, HI 96819. See www.CGPacificVeteransMemorial.Org for further details and a means of contributing online.

Lifetime Aloha Chapter member Jerry Lesperance, a Korean War veteran, is a project advisor.



Aloha Chapter, MOAA

RESERVATION FORM

June Dinner Meeting

Check in/Fellowship 5:30 PM, Thursday, June 21, 2007
Buffet Dinner 6:00 PM

Guest Speaker: LT Kurt Dreflak, NOAA, Honolulu Port Captain
Honolulu Airport Hotel, 3401 N. Nimitz Hwy., Honolulu 96819

Member: _____ Spouse: _____

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

Cost: \$25.00 per person. _____ x \$25.00 = \$ _____

Please send in your reservation to arrive by **Thursday, June 14, 2007** to:

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

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Aloha Chapter, MOAA, Membership/Application Form

Enroll me as a Regular Member: ☐ Each year of membership = \$15. ☐ Five Years = \$60. (One year FREE!)
 Enroll me as a Life Member: ☐ Membership rates: Age 71 & older=\$85.; 61-70=\$135.; 51-60=\$185.; 50 & under=\$235.
 Enroll me as an Auxiliary Member: ☐ (i.e., spouse of a U. S. military officer, surviving spouse of a deceased officer)
 AUX: ☐ Each year of membership = \$10. ☐ Life Membership = \$75

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

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City, State Zip

Spouse's Name

H B C

Telephone Numbers H=Home/B=Business/C=Cell E-mail

Applicant's Signature

Recruiter/Sponsor's Name

*Mail Application Form and
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 Honolulu, HI 96817-0267*

CHECK APPLICABLE BOXES

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<input type="checkbox"/> National Guard		<input type="checkbox"/> US Navy
<input type="checkbox"/> Retired from AD		<input type="checkbox"/> USCG
<input type="checkbox"/> Retired from Res.		<input type="checkbox"/> USMC
<input type="checkbox"/> Former Officer		<input type="checkbox"/> USPHS
<input type="checkbox"/> Auxiliary (indicate Rank and Service of Spouse)		<input type="checkbox"/> NOAA

☐ National MOAA Member:

MOAA No. _____

Revised: January 2007. 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**

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