

# 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*

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May 2007



## Annual Aloha Chapter BBQ Chicken Fundraising Event and Charity to Institute of Human Services a Great Success!



*Members distributing whole BBQ chickens to people driving up to Fern School*

about \$4800 was collected, which the expenses of our cost of 640

A large contingent of two shifts of eager volunteers from our Aloha Chapter gathered at Fern School in Kalihi Sunday morning and afternoon, April 29<sup>th</sup>, to distribute the BBQ whole chickens to people who had bought tickets for \$8 each or drove up to make a cash purchase. A preliminary estimate of will be reduced by **See BBQ Page 6**



*Gordon Cho, Wesley Fong, Maxine Yee, Louise Frye, Bob Frye, Leroy Perry, Mary Cho and Mark Webster manning the lunchtime serving line at the Men's Facility of the IHS*

### Inside May Issue

Bridge Report	5	Memorial Clean Up	3
Calendar	2	Pacific Air Museum	7
Chapter Leaders	8	President's Report	2
Golf Report	6	Twinning	4
Legislative Affairs	4	UH ROTC	5

## President's Message

By Les Ihara



My wife **Shirley** and I had the honor and privilege of representing all of Hawaii's MOAA members when we "Stormed the Hill" (Congress) on Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, with MOAA Council and Chapter Presidents from the other 49 states. I had staggered appointments with our entire Congressional Delegation on that date, and although **Senator Inouye** was not available, we were fortunate in personally meeting and taking MOAA's message to **Senator Akaka**, and **Representatives Abercrombie** and **Hirono**. It was a cold, hectic, and tiring 4 days in the Washington, DC, area for us, but a great opportunity to meet with other MOAA leaders.

While we were away, **VP Larry Enomoto** took charge and arranged for a tour of the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island. I trust that those who took the tour were pleasantly surprised and enjoyed the lunch and camaraderie after it.

I want to thank those who supported our annual Fundraiser by purchasing and/or donating chickens to the Institute of Human Services (IHS). In addition, many of you volunteered to help at Fern School that morning and/or helped serve lunches at IHS. My only regret is that we were not able to help since we were off on another mainland trip we had planned long before the fundraiser date was known.

Also, I want to say "Mahalo" to our ROTC/Veterans Affairs Chair **Wes Fong**, committee member **Harold Kuwahara**, and chapter member **MG Vernon Miyagi** for representing our chapter and MOAA at the UH ROTC Awards Day Ceremony on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Thirteen Branch Insignia were purchased by the chapter and presented to newly commissioned 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenants at that ceremony.

As you can see by looking at our Calendar of Events for May, it is a busy month. Besides a JROTC Awards Ceremony at Punahou School, we are committed to clean the *Korean/Vietnam Wars Memorial* every Thursday in May, and there are five of them this year. If you haven't volunteered for this service project in the past, let me tell you that it's a "piece of cake" and a "feel good" time, with light work followed by light refresh-

ments and fellowship. If you and/or your spouse can spare a few hours on any Thursday morning, please contact me with your offers. In addition, chapter members participate in the annual Memorial Day services at Punchbowl and the State Veterans' Cemetery, this year on Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. Because of those activities, the Excom decided not to have a chapter meeting in May.

"*Twining 2007*" in Las Vegas is fast approaching, and I need to know where we stand in the number of chapter members and spouses who plan or have committed to participate in related activities. To date, tentative plans include two golf outings and a joint meeting prior to the UH-UNLV football game on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>.



### Welcome to Our New Member James D. Brown, MAJ, USA, Ret.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31	8:30 AM, Cleanup of Korean/ (Five Thursdays in May) Vietnam Memorial, State Capitol
May 8, 2007 (Tuesday)	Board of Directors Meeting, Oahu Veterans' Center, Foster Village, Honolulu 96818
May 10, 2007	Excom Meeting after Cleanup of Memorial
May 14, 2007 (Monday)	9:45 AM, <i>Merrie Ladies</i> Tour of Lion Coffee Facility, 1555 Kalani St., Honolulu 96817
May 17, 2007 (Thursday)	2:00 PM, JROTC Awards Ceremony, Dillingham Hall, Punahou School, Makiki
May 25, 2007	9:00 AM, Golf Outing, Barber's Point Golf Club
May 27, 2007	1:00 PM, Party Bridge, Fahrni Realty, Aiea
May 28, 2007 (Monday)	Memorial Day Ceremonies, Punchbowl National Cemetery & State Veterans' Cemetery
June 7, 2007 (Thursday)	8:00 AM Breakfast Ad-Hoc By-Laws Committee Meeting, Flamingo Rest., Pearl City
June 10, 2007	1:00 PM, Party Bridge
June 14, 2007	9:00 AM, Excom Meeting, Colonnade, Aiea
June 21, 2007 (Thursday)	Dinner Meeting, guest speakers from NOAA and USPHS (time & venue TBA)
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 12, 2007	9:00 AM, Excom Meeting, Colonnade, Aiea
July 19, 2007	Chapter Activity

#### 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.*

## MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH . . . A CHANCE TO HONOR OUR HEROES

The Hale Koa Hotel joins the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce and the State of Hawaii in celebrating May as Military Appreciation Month. We invite you to Experience Our Paradise as we host a variety of special events honoring our Armed Forces Personnel.



### Tuesday, May 16th

Let Mark Allen Mauricio mystify you and your family at a special Magic in Paradise Dinner Show. There will be giveaways for all guests attending the show and a chance to win great prizes



### Wednesday, May 23rd

Journey around Polynesia with Chief Tama and his Hulanani Dancers at our Tama's Polynesian Revue Dinner Show. There will be giveaways for all guests attending the show and a chance to win great prizes



### Memorial Day Weekend

Jack Daniel's hosts a Weekend Bash at the Barefoot Bar in honor of our Military Personnel. Enjoy great prizes, giveaways & live music throughout the weekend.



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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.

## Korean/Vietnam War Memorial Clean Up

Aloha Chapter, since its first year of existence in 2000, has been committed to keeping the *Korean/Vietnam War Memorial* clean and presentable during the month of May. This annual effort has gotten together many chapter members and spouses for a couple of hours each Thursday morning for the cleanup chores involved, e.g. raking leaves, cleaning the bushes, weeding, and washing down and cleaning the marble monument which displays the names of those who made the supreme sacrifice for our country in the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Community Services Chair, **Sam Heard**, is on a trip to the mainland and won't be back until the middle of May. Those willing to help are asked to contact chapter President **Les Ihara** now, indicating the date you will be volunteering, and **Sam** later in the month at 488-8897.

Cleanups begin at 8:30 AM and will last about 1½ hours with light refreshment and fellowship to follow. Volunteers are sure to experience great satisfaction for having helped clean and maintain their fallen comrades' memorial of their ultimate sacrifices. Signup today!



## Merrie Ladies Take a Coffee Break

On Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, the *Merrie Ladies* have planned a tour of the LION COFFEE Plant in Kalihi. Mary Cho is the facilitator of this event and suggests we all carpool since parking is tight. Plans are for the group to meet at Ft. Shafter's Richardson Theater before 9:30 AM as we will depart for the plant right at 9:30. The tour will take about an hour and there will be time afterwards to purchase items in the plant's gift shop. We will be given a 10% discount on all purchases so bring your \$\$\$\$ and save. There are lots of restaurants in the surrounding area so we will have plenty of lunch choices.

Please call Mary Cho at 484-2400 by Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, if you plan to attend this event.



**Add these Websites to your "Favorites"**

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

<http://www.moaa.org>

## 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 22 June 2007 at the Leilehua Golf Course. Volunteers are needed from 1000 to finish and will receive lunch, a goody bag, and dinner for their assistance.

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



## Twinning Program

### Twinning 2007 in Las Vegas, NV, Sep 13-16.

The visit with our Twinning Hosts from the Southern Nevada Chapter in Las Vegas during the period 13-17 September is fast approaching and we need to get a good idea very soon as to how many from our chapter will be involved. Although those interested in going to Las Vegas have the op-

tion of making their own travel and lodging arrangements, **Shirley Ihara** has arranged for a tour package with NonStop Travel which includes air and ground transportation to Las Vegas, lodging at the Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino, and tickets to the UH-UNLV football game on Saturday, September 15th, including transportation to and from the game. If interested in this tour package, you need to contact **Shirley** ASAP by calling her at 239-7947.

As soon as twinning activities are announced, all those who plan to participate in them will be contacted by our chapter's coordinator, **Les Ihara**, with the details. Furthermore, he needs to inform our hosts how many from our chapter to expect for their activities. Contact him or **Shirley** by phone at 239-7947 or via e-mail to: [lsi@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:lsi@hawaii.rr.com).



## Aloha Chapter Logo Shirts

The Executive Committee has voted to order a minimum, initial order of 25 Aloha Chapter shirts that can be worn on more formal occasions. The decision was to go with Reyn's at a special, low price of \$40 per Aloha shirt with the Aloha Chapter logo embroidered onto the shirt.

Those members that preordered shirts will be advised when their shirts are available.



## Legislative Affairs

Items that are pending in the closing days of the 2007 state legislature include:

- Additional funding for maintenance of veterans cemeteries. The state has consistently provided insufficient funds to the counties in the past.
- Continued funding for the quarterly veterans benefit and entitlement newsletter. This is a good source of information for veterans' benefits.
- Added travel expenses for a veterans services counselor.
- A resolution in strong support of the Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2007 now under consideration in Congress and introduced in the Senate by Senator Dan Inouye. This bill seeks to provide veterans benefits to the courageous Filipino soldiers who fought alongside America's armed forces in the Philippines during World War II.

The 2007 state legislature adjourns on May 3, 2007.



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Or go to [www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com)



Troops to Teachers



## Aloha Chapter Party Bridge

There were 4 tables of party bridge played at the April session held at the Fahrni Realty class-



room. *Pictured here are 3 of the 4 high scorers, seated left to right, are: Lois Luehring – 4<sup>th</sup> (Tie); Helen Fahrni – 2<sup>nd</sup> and Edy Kuwamoto - top scorer. Standing is Vernon Von who made a small slam with Harriet Weissman (not shown) who tied for 4<sup>th</sup> with Lois. Also not pictured, but coming in 3<sup>rd</sup>, was Ken Carroll.*

Others enjoying a Sunday afternoon of party bridge were: Lia Carroll, Bill & Trudy Ernst, Len Fahrni, Helen Hubbell, Les & Shirley Ihara, Mel Kuwamoto, Dave Luehring, and Marion Von.

The May bridge session will be held on the last Sunday in May—the 27<sup>th</sup>—at the Fahrni Realty classroom. Those who haven't signed up and/or are interested in playing on that afternoon are asked to contact **Bill** or **Trudy Ernst**, the hosts, by calling 625-2545, or e-mailing to: [bternst@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:bternst@hawaii.rr.com) not later than a week prior. If you're a bridge player, come join this friendly group of party bridge players for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

## Army/Air Force ROTC Awards

On April 19<sup>th</sup> the Aloha Chapter participated in the UH Army and Air Force Awards Ceremony at the University of Hawaii. **MG Vernon Miyagi**, representing our Aloha Chapter, presented each graduating ROTC cadet with his/her branch insignia at a separate Army ceremony.

Thereafter, at a joint Army and Air Force

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Awards ceremony **COL Wesley Fong** and **COL Harold Kuwahara** presented the MOAA ROTC certificate and medal on behalf of the Aloha Chapter to Army **Cadet Andrew Malon** and Air Force **Cadet Jonathan Tenorio**. The award is given to a third year ROTC cadet who has demonstrated exceptional potential for military leadership as a member of the ROTC.



*Col Fong, far left, and Col Kuwahara, far right, at UH with awardees, center, of MOAA ROTC Certificates*

## April Golf Report

Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, was the ideal golf day at Klipper Golf Course in Kaneohe. Besides the ideal weather, sunny and warm, light breezes and nary a sign of possible rain, playing golf at Klipper GC on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> holes are for golfers simply a joyful experience, regardless of the players' score.

I wish I could take credit for the ideal conditions today, but listening to the comments, all nineteen players had a great day on the course, especially those that were able to pad their wallets even if they did not have the best scores I have seen, but enough to win the mega jackpot.

First of all, I would like to say welcome to our first-time players today, **John Ma** and **Curtis Lee**. I would also like to say "good to see you" to **Honey Jean Katsarsky**, who indicated that she will be retiring this year so, hopefully, she can be a regular player with the Aloha chapter golfers.

The winners of the mega jackpot in fourth place were the partners of **Howard Okada** and **John Seely**, in third place were **Vernon Von** and **John Ma**; there was a tie for the first place honors, but when the tie breaker was applied, in second place were the partners of **Stan Furukawa** and yours truly, and the ultimate winners in first place (with not so outstanding scores) were the partners of **Len Katsarsky** and **Gordon Cho**.

The group of also ran, who had scores that were not as good as the winners' lousy scores, were **Joe Kuroda**, **Ken Yamada**, **Allen Ono**, **Honey Jean Katsarsky**, the only wahine player today, **Albert Richards**, **Leroy Perry**, **Curtis Lee**, **Ken Munechika**, **Yoshi Nakamura**, **Larry Enomoto** and my guest, **Mike Pang**. Thank you all for participating in our game today.

Our next outing will be at Barbers Point Golf Course on Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup>; tee time is 9:00 AM.

### BBQ Cont.

chickens and other supplies. Everyone enjoyed the fun and fellowship of seeing friends and meeting new ones at this potluck gathering.



*Leroy Perry, r., serving a lunch at IHS*

Many chapter members bought additional tickets as donations of chickens to the needy for a wholesome and greatly appreciated lunch at the Institute for Human Services.

Two groups of members went to IHS to help prepare over 300 complete, hearty BBQ chicken lunches and then man the food line serving them to the grateful men, women and children. One group worked on the food line at the Men's Facility and the other at the Women's and Children's Facility.

Many of the men and women at the IHS politely expressed their appreciation afterwards by saying, "Thank you!" Of course, this gave our selfless members a warm feeling of accomplishment and great satisfaction.

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

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Les Ihara, Aloha Chapter President / Chairman of the Board, with Senator Daniel Akaka, Shirley Ihara and Julia O'Connor in the Senator's Office.

## Storming The Hill

Along with Council and/or Chapter Presidents from all 50 states, chapter President **Les Ihara** and his wife **Shirley** were in Washington DC on Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> to talk to their Congressional delegates about 3 MOAA priority legislative issues. **Les** and **Shirley** had a warm reception and a very encouraging discussion with their friend **Senator Akaka**, who is now the Chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee. "We thanked him for his strong support of issues related to the military in the past and for his current new leadership approach to improving services to veterans," Les remarked. He added that "although the House of Representatives was in session, Representatives **Abercrombie** and **Hirono** made time to meet with us." Accompanying them was **Julia O'Connor**, a MOAA staff member.



## Members & Guests Re-lived WWII History at Air Museum

Docent **Solomon Ford**, a retired Kamehameha Schools teacher, pictured at the far right, enlightened 27 Aloha Chapter members and guests on April 19<sup>th</sup> with his fascinating stories which started before the brief orientation movie and continued at each of eight aircraft displayed in Hangar 37--Phase One of the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island, Pearl Harbor. For more than an hour, **Solomon** revealed little-known facts about not only some of the restored World War II aircraft that were involved in the attack on Pearl Harbor, but also about the human figures placed in or near them. From knowledge he gained in restoring aircraft on display now and in future phases, **Mr. Ford** added immensely to our appreciation of the significant role each of them played in various air battles in the Pacific area of operations. After the tour, our docent stayed around to answer questions from members of our group.



Enroll me as a Regular Member: <input type="checkbox"/> Each year of membership - \$15		Aloha Chapter, MOAA Membership/Application Form																									
Enroll me as a Life Member: <input type="checkbox"/> 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):																											
<input type="checkbox"/> Each year of membership=\$10		<input type="checkbox"/> Life membership=\$90																									
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Applicant's Signature		Mail Application Form and Membership Dues check to: Aloha Chapter, MOAA P.O. Box 19267 Honolulu, HI 96817-0267																									
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Revised: May 2005. All prior forms obsolete.																											

Because the Lanikea ("Blue Heaven") restaurant was crowded with a busload of tourists who apparently came by to eat before their museum visit, only some of our group ate there—others left to eat elsewhere.



Aloha Chapter  
 Military Officers Association  
 Of America  
 P.O. Box 19267  
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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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### 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