Nā Leo O Nā Koa

(Voices of Warriors)

Newsletter of the Hawaii Aloha Chapter, Affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America,

a nonpartisan, nonprofit veterans' association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and ensuring our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors.

Hawaii State Chapter — Chartered **23 July 1959**; Aloha Chapter — Chartered **27 January 2000** Hawaii Aloha Chapter — Established **1 May 2015**

COL Marvin J. Harris 5-Star Communications Award for Printed Newsletters—2018 & 2019



2017 & 2020 Chapter Rating Hawaii Aloha Chapter



Both the national Military Officers Association of America and the Hawaii Aloha Chapter are non-partisan organizations

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April, 2023

March Luncheon

On Friday, 24 April, only 16 members and guests attended our buffet luncheon at the Oahu Veterans' Center in spite of the distinguished guest speaker secured by our Program Chairman **Mike Fricano**. That was disheartening.



Earnest
Lau, the
Chief Engineer and
manager of
our Board
of Water
Supply

(BWS), gave a very interesting and informative slide presentation of Oahu's vulnerable aquafer and aging water distribution system. Oahu fortunately has favorable geology with the Koolau mountains perpendicular to the trade winds to create the rainfall which then filters down to a vast underground reservoir. Stressing that "Water is Life," he reported on the chronology of the Red Hill fuel leak disaster that contaminated the water of 93,000 households, mostly Navy families., and the efforts to defuel the 24 huge tanks situated a mere 100 feet above our vital aquafer.

His talk ended with a lively question and answer session.

National Vietnam Veterans' Day

March 29th, the anniversary of the return of our defeated military in Vietnam, has been finally declared as our National Vietnam Veterans Day in recognition for the more than a decade of sacrifice that our military endured in Vietnam.

At 1000, Wednesday, 29 March, a Vietnam War Veterans Day Ceremony was held in the pouring rain at the Hawaii Veterans' Cemetery in Kaneohe. Thankfully, our chapter member **Rona Adams**, the President of the local Chapter 858 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, had made arrangements to have large awnings installed. She introduced the speakers.

LTG James Jarrad, Deputy Commanding General, US Army Pacific, was the keynote speaker

Please see **29 March** on Page 7



MG Suzy Vares-Lum, USA, Ret., left, LTG James, Jarrad, and members, former Captains Glen Van Ingen, USAF, and Rona Adams, USA

April Event

A special treat has been planned for you on April 31st by our Program Chairman, **Mike Fricano**. What? April only has 30 days? Well, pretend that April has 31 days since our April event is on Monday, May 1st, May Day.

Our April tour and luncheon was originally planned for Friday, 21 April, but Mike realized that he would be in Washington, D. C., then for a week participating in MOAA's annual *Advocacy in Action* lobbying our Congressional delegation on three legislative issues of concern to the military. Before the pandemic, this concerted campaign by

Please see **Tour** on Page 6

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Hawaii Aloha Chapter, MOAA President's Message By Dr. Fred P. Staedel

I have unofficially and mentally signed an "executive order" with-

out chapter board approval (wink) appointing our immediate past president Mark Webster as my "Chapter Advisor to the President." His long service and dedication to our chapter is valuable and I hope to periodically harvest his experience for the "good of the order." And I am pleased to report that Mark has accepted this appointment, and he has also accepted his first assignment in developing and submitting the 2022 National MOAA Level of Excellence (LOE) Award nomination on behalf of and in support of our chapter.

With reference to supporting our chapter, two board members, Toni Correia and Roberta Sullivan, have both accepted the responsibility to represent our chapter on a rotation basis at the monthly Oahu Veterans Council meetings. I had the privilege of attending the March meeting by way of introducing myself and issuing our chapter's support of the Oahu Veterans Center's upcoming event in June entitled "Massing of the Colors" on Flag Day, 14 June 2023 to be held at the OVC facility in support of all our veterans. Chapter board member Jason Seal will be the Emcee and he is managing the ceremony as a whole. He and I hope that other MOAA chapter members and spouse members will also be found in attendance supporting this unique and first-time ceremony where youth will also be marching with the flags of numerous Oahu veteran organizations.

Our next Chapter meeting technically will not be in April; however, it will be a tour on 1 May 2023 of the Hawaii Plantation Village thanks to **Mike Fricano**'s efforts with lunch to follow at the Highway Inn in Waipahu. Mike and I are looking forward to a big turnout for this special activity.

And, speaking to "good turnouts" at MOAA meetings and events, the board has become concerned about the post-COVID attendance at our gatherings. Our last meeting on 24 March only yielded 16 in attendance.

Mike had gone to a great deal of effort to secure the manager of the Oahu Board of Water Supply (Mr. Ernest Lau being seen often on TV) and Mr. Lau presented a very comprehensive, informative, and detailed slide presentation on the source and status of our Oahu water, its current condition, and his work with the Navy to keep our water clean. Therefore the board will be monitoring our monthly attendance into the summer and if it is found prudent and practical to recommend we revert to quarterly meetings, it will be proposed to our membership.

The Trivia Question

April 1, 1945... General MacArthur's Army finally invades the Japanese army at the Battle of Okinawa [after Nimitz' Navy had been bombarding them for weeks]... But many years earlier, which general surprised the Hessians at the Battle of Trenton?

See Trivia Answer Page 5

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

20 Apr 2023 0900, Scholarship Fund Committee Meeting, (Thursday) Cruickshank Room, Oahu Veterans' Center

24 Apr 2023 0948, Golf Outing, Leilehua Golf Course,

(Monday) 99 Leilehua Golf Course Road, Wahiawa

1 May 2023 1100, Tour of Plantation Village, 94-695 (Monday) Waipahu Street, Waipahu; Lunch, High

way Inn, 94-830 Moloalo Street, Waipahu

19 May 2023 1115, Membership Meeting/Luncheon; (Friday) Guest Speaker: Dennis Hwang; Topic: Hurricane Preparedness in Hawaii

22 May 2023 0904, Golf Outing, Klipper Golf Course,

(Friday) Kaneohe Marine Corps Base Hawaii

29 May 2023 0830, Mayor's Memorial Day Ceremony, (Monday) National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

29 May 2023 1300, Governor's Memorial Day Ceremony,

(Monday) Hawaii Veterans' Cemetery, Kaneohe

14 June 2023 1100, National Flag Day Massing of the

(Wednesday) Colors, Oahu Veterans' Center

16 June 2023 1100 Tour of Hawaiian Mission House and

(Friday) Luncheon at Aloha Beer Company

23 June 2023 0800, Golf Outing, Leilehua Golf Course, (Monday) 99 Leilehua Golf Course Road, Wahiawa

NOTICE

This newsletter, my 208th issue of Nā Leo O Nā Koa, is an official publication of Hawaii Aloha Chapter, Military Officers' Association of America, P.O. Box 201441, Honolulu, Hawaii 96820. Views expressed herein are not necessarily chapter policy.



Hawaii Aloha Chapter CHOLARSHIP Scholarship Fund

2023 CHAPTER DONATIONS FOR ROTC & JROTC CADETS

Amount Received as of 7 April: \$9,085.10

PLATINUM CONTRIBUTORS (\$1,000 or MORE)

GOLD CONTRIBUTORS (\$500 — \$999)

Robert Lee; John Ma; Noriko Reed; Roberta Sullivan; Mark Webster

SILVER CONTRIBUTORS (\$100 — \$499)

Kenneth Ai-Chang; Ronald Akemoto; Leslie Bise; Myron Brumaghim; Clarence Chinn; Larry Colligon; Kathleen Ebey; Wesley Fong; James Fromm; Lisa Fry; Edwin Gayagas; Homer Hankins; Edward Hirata; William Liggett; Curtis Lee; Owen Macy; Christopher Mann; Stephanie Marshall; Bancroft McKittrick; Lance Okihara; Peter Pawling; Richard Rankin; Jason Seal; Robert Takao; Stephen Tom; Kazuto Tomoyasu; Frederick Tudor; Chester Wong

BRONZE CONTRIBUTORS (\$50 — \$99)

Marvin Baum; Reuben Bilan; Shirley Curtis; Soot Jew; Winifred Kam; Roger Kobayashi; Robert Nagao; Norman Pang; William Yamada

Plus 9 Anonymous Donors

If you donated in any of these categories and your name is not listed, call Mark Webster at 808-734-5994.

Urgent Request for DD-214 Discharge Papers & Separation Records

Source: NPRC email 10 February 2023

If someone needs an Emergency Request for immediate issue of a replacement DD-214, like the sudden death of a former service member, the below link is what needs to be used to send an electronic request. They will send an email response to the email address you provide on the electronic request. This is different than submitting a typical request that requires filling out a SF-180 "Request Pertaining to Military Records" which is done via snail mail. While the snail mail request could take 3-5 weeks to get a response, I was told the Emergency Request should be received in 3-7 days.

To submit a request, you may do so online at http://vetrecs.archives.gov, and select the blue "Start Request Online" button.

- 1. On the VETERAN SERVICE DETAILS page, select Emergency Request as the Category.
- 2. Select the nature of your request (Burial, Medical Emergency, Homeless Veteran) in the next box that opens.
- 3. Include an email address for communication and possible digital delivery, and/or a FAX number, otherwise, the document(s) will be physically mailed to the address entered.
- 4. If your request is for a burial, please ensure proof of death is uploaded. This could be a death certificate, funeral home letter signed by the director, or obituary.

To avoid the necessity of submitting this urgent request, all veterans should make prior arrangements by having their DD-214 available.



School	Presenter	School	Presenter
Farrington AJROTC 14 April1700	John Ma, BG	Kailua AF JROTC 5May	James Gebhard
Kahuku AJROTC 26 Apr 1800	Les Bise	Kaiser AFJROTC 14 April	Fred Staedel
Kaimuki AJROTC 27 Apr 1800	Roger Kobayashi	Moanalua AFJROTC 10May	Mike Fricano
Waipahu AJROTC 14 Apr 1800	Toni Correia Ed Gayagas	Punahou AJROTC 5May1700	Mark Webster
Leilehua AJROTC 4May 1800	Toni Correia Ed Gayagas	St Louis AJROTC Date Pending	Richard Shizuru
Mililani AJROTC 12 May 1730	Bob Takao	Baldwin AJROTC Date Pending	
McKinley AJROTC 11May1400	William Ligget	Hilo AJROTC 30Apr1300	Frank Box
Nanakuli AJROTC 12May1700	Don Arakaki	Kealakehe AJROTC 27Apr1730	Lois Paciello
Roosevelt AJROTC 13May	Les Bise	Konawaena AJROTC Date Pending	Lois Paciello
Waianae AJROTC 11May1700	Don Arakaki	Kapa`a AJROTC 6May1800	
Campbell NJROTC 26Apr1630	Toni Correia Ed Gayagas	Waimea AJROTC 5May	
Kalaheo NJROTC 26 April	Kevin Carney	Kailua AFJROTC 5May	Jim Gebhard
Radford NJROTC Date Pending	Kevin Carney??	UH Army ROTC 3May	Wes Fong
Kapolei MCJROTC Date Pending	Jason Seal	UH Air Force ROTC May3	Wes Fong
Aiea AFJROTC 14 Apr 1700	Mike Fricano	UH Navy ROTC 3May	Russ Grocki
Kapolei HS Date Pending	Jason Seal		

The list of MOAA presenters are almost complete. A few more volunteers are needed for Oahu. If anyone residing or knows someone residing on the neighbor islands who may be interested in volunteering, please contact me. Having someone there, Veteran or Active Duty, makes a huge difference.

Please send an email to Toni Correia at tonihawaii@hawaii.rr.com if you are able

to represent your Hawai'i Aloha Chapter.





Chaplain's Corner By Fred P. Staedel, ThD

Yes, it is Spring. We can now become grateful with faith and hope that our "virus winter" is over and

our attitude can be gratitude; gratitude for a renewal since Spring symbolizes "renewal and a fresh start." Ephesians 4:23 tells us: "Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes."

One's attitude can be spiritual when we turn our thoughts to the Divine in gratitude; and when we do this we are actually praying; yes praying! One of the definitions of prayer is: "A solemn request for help or expression of thanks addressed God or an object of ship." (Oxford Dictionary) Notice the words "expression of thanks" in this definition. When we "express thanks" we are being grateful; hence an attitude of gratitude is indeed being prayed for. And an "attitude of gratitude" always springs forth with new and fresh rewards.

And if Spring does symbolize "renewal and a fresh start," we can perpetuate that renewal by undertaking a fresh start with one's gratitude for our deliverance from the two and a half years of discontent and our release from the scourge of the "COVID Winter." And our attitudes should be spiritually based as in praying, and our attitude can also be a renewal of one's faith in the dominance of the Divine.

The Bible says it best in Psalms 51:10: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." **Fred**

Trivia Answer

None other than General George Washington at the Battle of Trenton [NJ]

V ietnam Veterans

Source: Military.com 30 March 2023

The Vietnam Era was one of the most turbulent times in American history, with the war abroad and mass civil unrest at home. As a result, Vietnam veterans returned to a homecoming unlike any generation of veterans before or since. Simply put, the "welcome home" wasn't always welcoming due to opposition toward the war.

Nearly nine million Americans served during the Vietnam War Era, and as of the 2020 Census, they are the largest cohort of veterans in America, with an estimated 6.4 million living vets at a median age of 71. In honor of their service, here are a few important things to know about the Vietnam generation. Media and pop culture often like to portray Vietnam veterans as a generation of men sent over to fight a war they didn't understand against their will, but the reality is most of those who fought in Vietnam volunteered to be there. Of the 8.7 million troops who served in the Vietnam Era between 1964 to 1973, 3.4 million deployed to Southeast Asia and 2.7 million served in South Vietnam. Out of all the people on active duty at the time, only 2.2 million were drafted, and only 25% of the total number of troops in combat zones were drafted.

President Harry S Truman signed an executive order that integrated America's armed forces in 1948. Although the Korean War was fought between 1950 and 1953, the U.S. military was still experiencing growing pains with the new policy. By the time the United States began increasing its involvement in South Vietnam, American military units were fully integrated, with an estimated 340,000 African Americans, 80,000 Latinos, 42,000 Native Americans and 35,000 Asian Americans serving in Vietnam.

Not all Vietnam veterans made it back home; 2,646 Americans were unaccounted for at the end of the Vietnam War, in all theaters of operations. Since the end of the war and the repatriation of American prisoners of war in 1973, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has recovered or identified 1,062 of those. That means 1,584 U.S. service members are still waiting to come home. An estimated 30% of Vietnam veterans suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder during their lifetime, according to the 1988 National Vietnam Veterans Readjustment Study, the last time such a study was done. Still, 97% of Vietnam vets hold honorable discharges, and the unemployment rate for veterans of the Vietnam War was only 4.8% in 1987, compared to the Uietnam War was only 4.8% in 1988, compared to the Uietnam War was only 4.8% in 1987, compared to the Uietnam War was only 4.8% in 1987, compared to the Uietnam War was only 4.8% in 1988, compared to the Uietnam War was only 4.8% in 1988, compared to the Uietnam War was only 4.8% in 19

March Golf Report

HAMOAA Golf News



On Monday, 20 March 2023, 15 HAMOAA golfer enjoyed the sunny / overcast weather Leilehua Golf Course. This is perfect golf weather; not too hot, not wet, not too windy, just right.

Leslie Bise Director of Golf (DOG) Our team placement with the blind draw for 20 March 2023:

Golf (DOG) | 1st Place: Owen Takenaka/ Bob Nagao

2nd Place: **Les Bise**/Charlie Padilla 3rd Place: Dianne Hara/**Gary Hara** (this was a blind draw, really!)

Our next outing is scheduled for Leilehua Golf Course, Monday, 24 April 2023; first tee at 09:48. We rescheduled our return to Leilehua because Barbers Point GC is aerating the week before, and Mamala Bay golf course is under renovation. MOAA members and guests are invited to join our golf outings. Please contact Les Bise, bisel001@hawaii.rr.com; 808-227-1462.

Hau'oli lā hānau Partial List of Known April Babies

Bob Towne	4/02	Clarence Y. L. Chinn	4/18
Joel Maimon	4/10	Dudley Foster	4/18
Linda Bruckner	4/12	Anthony LaVecchia	4/20
Ronald Katto	4/12	Harold Wilson	4/21
Richard Kawakami	4/12	George Honjiyo	4/22
Mary Lowe	4/12	Charles Park	4/28



Best Wishes for many, many more Birthdays!

Welcome To Our New Member

Mary G. Smart, CAPT,, USN, Ret.; Mililani

Tour from front page

chapters from every state was known as *Storming the Hill*.

We will assemble at 1100, Monday, 1 May, at Hawaii's Plantation Village, the Outdoor Museum of Hawaii's Cultural History, 94-695 Waipahu Street, Waipahu.

This will be a fascinating tour of a bygone era. Step back in time to when 'sugar was King' and experience the real Hawaii. Hawaii's Plantation Village is the perfect location for keiki, family and all ages to explore a living history museum and botanical garden. A visit opens a door to a time of true hospitality and cultural sharing that sprung from Hawaii's plantation life.

The Village tells the story of life on Hawaii's sugar plantations (circa 1850-1950) and is composed of a museum and restored buildings and replicas of plantation structures, including houses of various ethnic groups and community buildings such as the plantation store, infirmary, bathhouse and manager's office. We share the story of Hawaii's many cultures: including Hawaiian, Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean, Okinawan, Portuguese and Puerto Rican.

Located in historic Waipahu town, local guides take you on a journey back to the early 1900s where you can experience more than 30 authentic plantation hyomes and structures featuring personal artifacts, clothing, furniture and art placed in their original settings. Unusual plants brought from China, Portugal, Japan, Puerto Rico, Korea, Okinawa, Polynesia and the Philippines by immigrants from their native lands provide delicious fruit samples during the tour. This "must-see" attrac-

tion is located in historic Waipahu town, just down the street from Waikele Shopping Outlets.

After our tour, which will end at 1300, we will meet at the nearby Highway Inn Restaurant, 94-830 Moloalo Street in Waipahu. There is plenty of free parking in front of the restaurant.

Our chapter President, Fred Staedel, hopes that we have an impressive turnout for our tour and luncheon. To assist in his desire, this newsletter is intentionally late because chapter members may postpone sending in the Reservation Form on page 7 and then forget about it. Now, when you receive this newsletter, you should send in the form ASAP to arrive not later than Monday, 24 April, so that the Plantation Village and the Highway Inn can plan for our special event bookings.

Followed by Lunch ordered off the menu at Highway Inn 94-695 Waipahu Street, Waipahu, HI 96797 94-830 Moloalo Street, Waipahu, HI 96797 1 May 2023 **Plantation** Hawaii Aloha Chapter, RESERVATION 1100, Monday, Tour of the Hawaii

The Group Tour is payable in advance with one check from the chapter. to join us. (Check if needed) Keiki are encouraged \times \$11.00 = \$ Transportation

Member:

Guest(s):

Donation to your Chapter's General Fund for Sustaining Operations: \times \$8.00 = \$ Kamaaina/Military = \$11.00 per person. Thus, we need payments in advance. Youth (4 to 17) = \$8.00 per person.

We Need a Firm Headcount for the Special, Personal Guided Tour and Luncheor Please send in your reservation ASAP to arrive NLT Monday, 24 April,

more information Call Mike Fricano at 808-386-8575, if necessary, for **29 March** from Front Page

and retired MG Suzanne Vares-Lum was the guest speaker

Later that afternoon a ceremony was held at Kuroda Field, Ft. DeRussy, prior to a parade down Kalakaua Avenue to Kapiolani Park commemorating our etnam Veterans. This was the third long overdue recognition for our Vietnam Veterans who were slandered upon their return to America half a century ago.



Chapter members Mark Webster, left, and **Ed** Cruickshank in their Vietnam Veterans of America and Purple Heart uniforms, respectively, viewing the parade

Hawaii Aloha Chapter, MOAA, Membership/Application Form Revised: February 2021. All prior forms obsolete. Check All Applicable Boxes Enroll me as a Regular Member: Each year of membership = \$20 = No. of Years Five Years = \$90. PLUS Partial Year Membership: APR - JUN = \$15; JUL - SEP = \$10 and OCT-DEC = \$5 = Total					
Enroll me as a Surviving Spouse Member: (i.e., spouse of a U. S. military officer, surviving spouse of a deceased officer) Surviving Spouse: Each year of membership = \$15. Five Years = \$60 NOTE RANK BELOW PLUS Partial Year Membership if Joining JUL – SEP = \$10 and OCT-DEC = \$5 = Total					
Active Duty or 90 Years and Older = FREE Name Last, First Middle/Initial(s) (PLEASE PRINT) DOB MM/DD/YYYY Address		National Guard US Navy Retired from AD USCG Retired from Res. USMC Former Officer USPHS			
City, State Zip H C	Surviving (indicate NOAA Rank above and check Service of Spouse) National MOAA Member:				
Telephone Numbers H=Home/C=Cell	<u>E-mail</u>	MOAA No.			
Applicant's Signature	Mail Application Form and Membership Dues Check to Hawaii Aloha Chapter, MOAA P. O Box 201441	ACTIVE DUTY WAR VETERAN KOREA 06/27/50 - 01/31/55 VIETNAM 02/28/61 - 05/07/75 OIF/OEF 08/02/90 - TBD			
Recruiter/Sponsor's Name	Honolulu, HI 96820				



Hawaii Aloha Chapter Military Officers Association Of America P.O. Box 201441 Honolulu HI 96820-1356



2021

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