



Pau Hana Koa

Retired Warriors

The Retired Officers Association P.O. Box 1185 Kailua Hawaii 96734

Volume 17 No 2

WEBSITE <http://www.troa-hawaii.net>

February 2002

Senate Bill needs your Support.

Member Lou Crompton had a conversation in January with our senior member, Col Frank Steer - age 101, who noted that he hired a part time house-keeper to help around the house. Finally after attaining 100 yrs, Frank thought he could use a little help tidying up. Lou was the right person to mention this to. He contacted some State Legislators and helped write Senate Bill 2550



Colonel and Mrs. Frank Steer

the first week of the Session. SB2550 will give any resident age 100+ up to \$13,000 credit on their State income tax if that person has expenses up to that amount for house-keeping assistance. We'll try to keep you notified when SB2550 has a hearing so that as many members as possible can attend the hearing and voice their support. Just amongst us - SB2550 is Steer Bill 2550. Let's support it!

TAPS

Lieutenant Colonel Lincoln C. Drake, United States Army

Colonel Kwan You Chang, United States Army

Lieutenant Colonel Walter T. Osborne, United States Air Force

Hawaii Chapter Fore Runner in Support to Community



Fisher House



Hawaii Food Bank



VA Nursing Home



U.S Army Museum

Executive Committee**Elected Officers**

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

January has literally flashed by for me with a new full time job and finding myself in Seoul, Korea participating in a ten day conference. However, Hawaii Chapter continues to remain at the forefront and a priority in my life. What other organization is there which is the leader, as it should be, in exemplifying our profession whether it be in an active, retired, reserve or guard status.

Our Chapter and TROA continue to have significant focus on retiree and veteran matters as they impact on our members, however, we are a “professional” officer (with auxiliary) organization which inherently has responsibility for the welfare and entitlements of all retirees, veterans and their families. In addition to this retiree and veteran focus, Hawaii Chapter in past years and today, proactively seeks to support our service components (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine, and Coast Guard), the Hawaii National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve in Hawaii. Last year we were at the top of the list with our visibility in supporting the resumption of training at Makua. As President and with the approval/support of our Board of Directors, I intend to continue this path for 2002.

Through our monthly Pau Hana Koa, our website (<http://www.troa-hawaii.net>), and Chapters we will continue to actively provide information—both from the National and State Level, which we believe may have impact on our lives here in Hawaii. With these information channels we will also continue our visible support to our Commander in Chief and our Armed Forces in combating the terrorist Threat to our Nation.

You will see this Pau Hana Koa focus is on articles from the Chapter’s Personal Affairs Committee (PAC). The PAC under the Chair of Bruce Smith meets every other month with the next meeting scheduled on 13 March. These meetings are open to all members—and more often than not, have a great speaker. During their last January meeting Mrs. Laudra B. Eber, CEBS, President of Long Term Care Hawaii, Inc., spoke on Long Term Care Insurance. Our Legislative Affairs/Veterans Affairs (LAVA), which meets on a monthly basis also offers the same opportunity to hear and participate in interesting discussions.

I will draw to a close with the memory of three of our Chapter’s stalwarts Kwan Chang, past president Walter Osborne, and Lincoln Drake.

Duke

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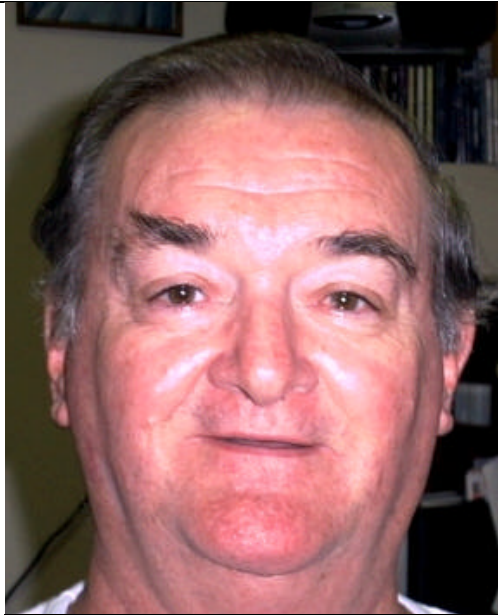
Member of the Month

Hawaii Chapter recognizes Lieutenant James F. Fromm , USCG

As many in Hawaii Chapter who have successfully entered the 21st Century, we have discovered and ventured into the world of Computers, the Internet, Websites, E-Mail and other intriguing related areas. In this arena the Chapter has its own in house expertise through our affiliated group, "The Users Group" (TUG). This group meets the 1st Saturday of each month at the Bishop Museum and also has a monthly meeting focused on Windows—the Windows Significant Interest Group (WSIG).

Anyone who has been associated with TUG and attended the monthly meetings is aware of the "Fromm experience" as Jim Fromm is ever present in all TUG activities, to include world-wide recognition for "his" TUG News Letter — and as important to members. ready source of information and assistance.

Lou Torraca, TUG President, recently discovered that Jim started a Computer



Jim Fromm

business in March 1991 and that his customers include home users, small businesses and government agencies, both local and federal.

As for Jim's business philosophy, he works by referral only as advertising just increases the cost of doing business and may result in customers who are not all that desirable, when it comes to making payment. He believes and rightly so, referrals are more reliable customers. As a side benefit for TUG members, he also has special discounts. So, a good additional incentive to join TUG. All that is required is your "wish list", as Jim puts together a line item written estimate for you to consider.

As previously alluded, TUG and Jim Fromm are synonymous to TUG membership. Through his time and effort, many have overcome their reluctance to enter the world of Computers and walk away having a lot of Fun. Mahalos to Jim and Yoshi.

Board of Directors

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COMING EVENTS

- 12 Feb (Tues) - Kailua-Kona Satellite Meeting—Paleku Gardens Peace Sanctuary—S Kona
- 14 Feb (Thur) - LAVA Meeting (1130) - HAFB O-Club
- 15 Feb (Fri) - Executive Committee Meeting (1200) - HAFB O-Club
- 16 Feb (Sat) - Hilo Satellite Meeting — Club 100 Hilo
- 17 Feb (Sun)- **Brunch at Hickam Officers Club**
- 23 Feb (Sat) - Party Bridge-Reservation-Call Robbie 255-4558
- 2 Mar (Sat) - TUG Meeting (1000) - Bishop Museum
- 12 Mar (Tues) - Kailua-Kona Satellite Meeting (Pot Luck) — Kohala
- 13 Mar (Wed) - PAC Meeting (1130) - HAFB O-Club
- 14 Mar (Thur) - LAVA Meeting (1130) - HAFB O-Club
- 15 Mar (Fri) - Executive Committee Meeting (1200) - HAFB O-Club
- 16 Mar (Sat) - Hilo Satellite — Club 100 Hilo
- 23 Mar (Sat) - Party Bridge-Reservation-Call Robbie 255-4558

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Legislative Affairs Veterans Affairs (LAVA) Captain George Sullivan USN



Hawaii State Tax Credit

The January 2002 issue of the Pau Hana Koa contained an article about a "residential construction and remodeling tax credit". The article stated that details should be in the Hawaii State Tax booklets for 2001 income tax. Unfortunately,

because the bill was passed late in the year, the information on the credit did not make the printing of the 2001 booklets. Information on this tax credit can be obtained at the Hawaii State tax website :www.state.hi.us/tax/

If you did any renovations to your home in 2001, and you pay Hawaii state taxes, you may be eligible for this tax credit.

Form N332 and Schedule CR are the forms necessary to file with your HI state tax return to receive this credit. They can be found at this web site or you can call 587-7572 to receive a copy of the forms by mail.

Please also note that this tax credit can be used in 2002 for renovations completed in 2002. The current law ends June 30, 2002, but there is a proposal to extend the provision to 2004.

Abercrombie Joins Navy/Marine Corps Caucus

Congressman Neil Abercrombie joined other representatives to create a House Navy/Marine Corps Caucus. More than 30 representatives are currently members of the Caucus which will promote the interests of the Navy and Marine Corps. This is an obvious benefit to our Navy and Marine Corps in Hawaii. We note the absence in the caucus of our other representative.

Hard Sell for SRB and Concurrent Receipt

President Bush's 2003 budget request, scheduled to be delivered to Capitol Hill in early February, includes a 14% increase in defense spending - the largest in 20 years. The \$379 billion defense request is \$48 billion more than his 2002 submission, backing up his public statements that Defense is his number one priority. But most of the proposed increase will be targeted toward weapons, spares, and other operations needs.

It will be a hard sell this year to ensure Congress gives adequate consideration to much-needed

"people program" upgrades - for active duty, Guard and Reserve, retirees and survivors - in the competition for resources. Revisions long sought to the SRB program and funding for Concurrent Receipt will not be in the President's budget. If these programs are to make it to the President's desk this year, it will take an all out effort on the part of all of the retired community to continuously educate our congressional delegation on the inequity that exists and the need for revision. **Remember 2002 in an election year.**

LAVA Committee Meeting

The LAVA Committee meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be February 14 in the Pikake room at the Hickam Officers' Club at 1130. If issues affecting the military community are on your mind, we welcome your opinions.



Pharmacy Update Colonel Clyde Friar USA

The Camp Catlin off-base sub-pharmacy to Tripler is going strong. It avoids security, has adequate parking, and is open from 1000 -1800 daily for pick-up of call-in medicines. Not only do you get the pick-up the next day after call-in, but you are in immediate proximity to an exchange Mini-Mart plus auto port gasoline station. You will recall from the Oct. PHK that the pharmacy can be reached by turning Mauka off Nimitz Highway to Camp Catlin, then immediately right on Nimitz Road.

The medicines will be held for 10 days before being returned to TAMC. Controlled medicines cannot be obtained. The site will be closed weekends and holidays.

Otherwise, the pharmacy transition involving TFL and the senior pharmacy program appears almost seamless. The contractor personnel have been informative and helpful. If there are questions, problems, et al call Clyde Friar at 262-5086 or E-Mail clfriar@aol.com.

KAUAI, PRINCEVILLE: Pu'u Po'a

Spectacular Oceanfront Condominium with a magnificent view of Bali Hai Beautifully furnished 2 BR Adjacent to the Sheraton Princeville Hotel 50% Discount to TROA members and their guests Truly a Warrior's Rest Phone: (800) 222-5541



Personal Affairs Committee (PAC)

Colonel John Harms USMC

TRICARE FOR LIFE (No. 2)

This is the second article relative to the conversion of a person(s) civilian or other Medicare supplemental medical insurance to only TRICARE FOR LIFE. I have received a number of telephone calls from our members stating that they now want to take this action for TRICARE FOR LIFE medical supplemental insurance is working apparently very well. I have eliminated other superfluous information in this rendition so hopefully it will read a bit clearer.

Step 1 - You have made the decision to drop your civilian or other Medicare supplemental medical insurance and use ONLY TRICARE FOR LIFE (TFL) medical supplemental insurance. In other words you plan to drop your Kaiser or HMSA 65C or AARP medical supplemental insurance. In this decision process remember that TRICARE FOR LIFE covers most everything you will ever need in medical, both outpatient and inpatient services. There are a couple of items such as paying for prescription eyeglasses that TFL will not cover. Very few items, but still beware of these in making your decision. Go by the concept that if Medicare covers the medical services, TFL will also cover the supplemental expenses or the 20% Medicare does not cover. Additionally TFL covers other areas that Medicare does not cover. Please review the very fine National TROA supplement that came out with their magazine a few months ago for details.

Step 2 - Now insure that your Defense Enrollment Eligibility System (DEERS) data is up-to-date and correct, and you have a current military ID card. To complete these please go to any of the military base DEERS offices in Hawaii. Insure you have enrolled in both Medicare A and B. If you do not have medical insurance coverage under Medicare B contact the Federal Social Security Office, Federal Building in Honolulu for information on how to enroll in this phase of Medicare.

Step 3 - You now draft a letter to the TRICARE FOR LIFE administrator for Hawaii and advise them that you PLAN on terminating your existing civilian or other Medicare supplemental medical insurance on a specific date; for illustration purpose say 1 March 2001. Include in this letter your Medicare number and state your program includes Medicare B coverage, your and your sponsors social security numbers (identify which number belongs to whom), and a statement to the effect that you are selecting TRICARE FOR LIFE (TFL) as your only Medicare supplemental insurance. Keep a copy of this letter and the date you mailed it to TFL in your records. The original letter is sent to: "PGBY/TRICARE – Regions 9/10/12, TRICARE FOR LIFE, PO Box 7059, Camden, South Carolina, 29020-7059. DONOT drop your current civilian or other Medicare supplemental insurance until you have verified that the Medicare database reflects your change. (See next step).

Step 4 – Wait approximately two weeks and telephone Medicare B administrator office in Fargo, North Dakota at 1 800 444 4606 and ask the representative if your Medicare (computer) profile HAS BEEN CHANGED TO REFLECT TRICARE FOR LIFE as your Medicare supplemental medical insurance. Only you can do this, the person whose profile is being requested due to privacy issues. IF the Medicare representative states YES you now have TFL as your only secondary medical insurance then you can stop your current civilian or other Medicare supplemental insurance. If the representative says NO, DO NOT drop your civilian or other Medicare supplemental insurance. Then telephone the TFL administrator at 1 888 363 5433 and ask if they had received your letter in step 3 above and has this information been forwarded to Medicare. Tell them that your change in Medicare supplemental insurance does not yet reflect TFL as your only supplemental insurance. TFL will advise what they have done relative to getting this information to Medicare. Then wait another two weeks and call the Medicare B representative and check on your Medicare profile. If it now states TFL as your only Medicare supplemental medical insurance, drop your civilian or other Medicare supplemental insurance. Bottom line is that you have to make sure Medicare B computer data reflect TFL as your medical supplemental insurance BEFORE you drop you current civilian or other medical supplemental insurance. If after the second time you have not been able to have the Medicare database reflect TFL as your supplemental medical insurance, call me at 261-2282.

KEY TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO KEEP ON HAND

Medicare A (hospital/in patient) questions: 1 866 264 4990

Medicare B (doctor/out patient) questions: 1 800 444 4606

TRICARE FOR LIFE questions: 1 888 363 5433

TRIPLER REPORT

Colonel Don Hutchinson USAF



The TRICARE Hawaii Regional Beneficiary Advisory Council/Health Consumer

Committee met on 23 January 2002. It was announced that an Ambulatory Care Reception Center will be operating in the front area of the Emergency waiting room. The Center will operate from 1300 to 2100, Sunday through Thursday for 90 days. It will be staffed with a corpsman and a nurse to screen each patient entering the ER. Those with actual emergency medical needs will be sent on to the ER reception counter. Others with a need for medical attention will be counseled and if available, appointments will be made with the appropriate clinic for them to be seen on a routine basis. If appointments at Tripler are not available, they may be advised to seek civilian care under Tricare for Life or other methods if appropriate. About 130 patients report to ER each day whether they require emergency treatment or not. This overwhelms the ER staff and can make it difficult for true emergency patients to be seen in a timely manner. It is hoped this system will get the daily patient count in ER down to 60 a day.

All Tripler Silver patients have been grandfathered as eligible for TRICARE Plus, but you MUST ENROLL. The patient coding showing Silver status will be discontinued as of April 2002 and a Silver patient will no longer be shown as impaneled in a clinic unless they have enrolled in Tricare Plus. For information on enrolling contact Tripler's

Managed Care Division at 433-7986.

The NEX refill pharmacy is doing a lot of business. Patrons can only pick up refills that have been phoned into the Pharmacy refill system with the NEX refill pharmacy as the desired point of pickup. All new and renewed prescriptions must be picked up at the regular Pharmacy.

The 2000/2001 TAMC healthcare consumers' guide is available at the information desk and most clinics. The guide is published annually for health beneficiaries use. If you have any suggestions for improvements or corrections, please contact Tripler Public Affairs Officer, Margaret Tippy, 433-5785, FAX 433-6558 or Email: Margaret.Tippy@amedd.army.mil Tripler has hired an internal Patient Satisfaction Coordinator for the Patient Representative Office. That office sees about 200 patients a month. The office now has some turmoil with changes in personnel.

There are plans to open Ward Avenue, the street in front of the Ocean entrance, in a few weeks. This will provide additional parking spaces, most of which will be for handicapped. It will be possible to drop off patients across from the flag pole near the Ocean entrance, but the loop road will remain closed. More personnel have been hired to assist in directing traffic to available parking areas. Additional parking is available mauka of the mountain entrance, up the hill by the transient quarters and the old

BRIDGE CORNER

The TROA Party Bridge group started off the New Year right by welcoming Jack and Carita Miller, and Bud and Peg Hurless as new members to the group at its monthly meeting at the home of hosts Robbie and Bob Gee in Hawaii Kai. Other new members, Gary and Bev Jensen, were unable to attend this month.

In their inaugural visit, the Millers proved themselves to be top-notch players by taking 1st and 2nd place, while Gigette Caldwell came in at 3rd place. We won't mention who earned the distinction of winning the "booby" prize.

Get to know some of your chapter members on a more regular basis, not just at the monthly dinners. That's the real purpose for this nonsmoking group's existence: fellowship, fun, relaxation, and good social bridge! No partner is necessary, so singles are welcome, as well as couples. If you're "rusty", don't worry. It's like riding a bicycle; you never really forget how. Just bring yourself and \$1.00, but be sure to call Robbie Gee at 255-4558 by the weekend beforehand to reserve a place when you want to play. The group usually meets on the last Saturday of the month at 7 pm at various locations around the island on a rotation basis. Watch your Pau Hana Koa each month for the dates.

Tripler club.

A daily courier service to shuttle medical records between Schofield Barracks and Tripler is planned. Under the system, if appointments are made a day or more in advance, the patient's medical records should be delivered to the appropriate clinic.

The next meeting will be 17 April 2002.

Dr. Marvin Baum, L/C, USAF Ret

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Hawaii Chapter Extends Aloha to New Members

Davey and Bobby Crockett Dave and Geal Talbert Robert and Bette Green
 Gregory and Claire Patch Fred and Francis McCollum Ferne Farrell

DONOR COUPON

Hawaii Chapter, The Retired Officers Association

Your donations will go to many worthy community programs that our chapter supports –including the USO and ROTC Awards and Scholarships. I wish to donate:

\$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

Honor Roll recognition is given annually for gold, silver, bronze and now Platinum. It is based on the total contribution by a member for the Calendar year.

Platinum: \$101 + Gold \$100 Silver \$50- \$99
 Bronze \$25-\$49

Community Service Projects _____ ROTC/JROTC Programs & ROTC Scholarship _____

Please help your Chapter carry out its community service projects by mailing this form with your contributions to:
 Hawaii Chapter TROA, PO Box 1185 Kailua, Hawaii 96734

HAWAII CHAPTER TROA A GOURMET SUNDAY CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH

WHEN: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2002

TIME: 10:00 AM BRUNCH LINE OPENS

11:00 AM CHAPTER MEETING WITH GUEST SPEAKER

MIKE COTTRELL, DIRECTOR FOR HAWAII DISTRICT NAVY EXCHANGES

WHERE: KOA ROOM, HICKAM OFFICER'S CLUB

COST: \$18.00 NON-CLUB MEMBERS

\$15.00 CLUB MEMBERS- MAY BRING UP TO SIX GUESTS

PROGRAM: "THE NEW NAVY EXCHANGE COMPLEX - A SHOPPER'S PARADISE- AND YOU!

RESERVATIONS: ALL PAY WHEN GETTING NAME TAGS AT HICKAM. MUST RESERVE SEATS IN ADVANCE SO PLEASE SEND NAMES TO JACK MILLER BY FAX OR PHONE. AT 261-4100 OR SEND E-MAIL TO carita@pixi.com -- THEN SHOW UPI RESERVATIONS DUE NOT LATER THAN FEB 13TH !!

MAHALO AND WE'LL SEE YOU THERE !

Chapter Dues effective 1 November 2001

Members	Life	Auxiliary	Life
	50 and Under = 300.00	Annual = 9.00	50 and Under = 150.00
Annual—15.00	51-60 = 250.00	2-4 Years x 9.00, e.g. 3 yrs = 27.00	51-60 = 125.00
2-4 Years x 15.00, e.g. 3 yrs =45.00	61-70 = 200.00	5 Years = 36.00	61-70 = 100.00
5 Years = 60.00	71 -89 = 100.00		71 -89 = 50.00
	90 and above = 00.00		

Membership Application for the Hawaii Chapter of The Retired Officers Association

Check all that apply. Application for: New member Renewal Regular member Auxiliary member Date _____

Name: _____ Male Female
Last First MI

Please fill in the next three lines with information on the applicant. If you checked auxiliary member above, please provide this information on your spouse.

1: Service _____ Rank _____ Active Duty _____ Rotation Date (if active duty) _____ Retired _____ Year Retired _____

2: Former Officer Reserve National Guard National TROA Membership No. _____

3. If application is for auxiliary membership, is your spouse deceased? Yes No

Applicant's Birth Date _____/_____/_____
SSN _____/_____/_____

Address: _____
Number and Street City State ZIP Code

Mailing Address (If different) _____ Phone Number _____

If married, spouse's first name: _____ Last name, if different _____

Office Phone Number _____ Fax Number _____ E-Mail Address _____

Indicate interest in any of the following Chapter activities or Committees:

Personal Affairs Legislative Affairs/Veterans Affairs Public Affairs Program/Social Newsletter Membership Finance
ROTC Scholarship & Awards Fund Raising Community Service TUG(Computers) Party Bridge Golf Tennis

Photography Suggestions for other Programs/Activities: _____

Dues Schedule: Regular membership: \$15.00 per year; 5 years for \$60.00

Life membership: Age 50 and under \$300.00; 51-60 \$250.00; 61-70 \$200.00; 71-89 \$100.00; 90 + free.

Auxiliary Membership: \$9.00 per year; 5 years for \$36.00

Life membership: Age 50 and under \$150.00; 51-60 \$125.00; 61-70 \$100.00; 71-89 \$50.00; 90 + free

Dues enclosed \$ _____ Optional donation \$ _____ Used for ROTC Scholarship \$ _____ Other, e.g. (PHK).

Make Check Payable to Hawaii Chapter TROA P.O. Box 1185, Kailua, HI 96734

_____ Detach and Mail with Dues Renewal or give to prospective Member _____



Hawaii Chapter
The Retired Officers Association
P.O. Box 1185
Kailua, Hawaii 96734



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for
“TROA Excellent Chapter –2000 Award”**

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Chapter E-Mail Address
info@troa-hawaii.net
Social Programs
Sunday 17 February—Brunch at Hickam O-Club

Chapter Members — are your dues paid up
Check the date on address label below.