

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



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

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

July, 2023

Flag Day Ceremony

*Submitted by Jason C. Seal,
Col, USMC, Ret.*



The “Massing of the Colors” ceremony took place at the Oahu Veterans’ Center on Wednesday, 14 June. The event was a service of remembrance on Flag Day — a patriotic ceremony honoring the American Flag and those who have served our country in the armed services and other civic organizations. It was an event that rededicated our collective faith in our nation and allowed those attending to express their gratitude for all who served or are currently serving.

The ceremony featured flag bearing representation from



Mark Webster
with chapter flag

twenty-one Veteran Service Organizations, four Civic Organizations, and the Gold Star Family Associ-

ation. Youth groups such as JROTC units, Scouts, Sea Cadets, Young Marines, and American Heritage Girls were also in attendance. Attending dignitaries included SgtMaj Alan Kellogg, USMC (Ret.), Medal of Honor recipient; General Joseph Lengyel, USAF (Ret.), 28th Chief of the National Guard Bureau, former member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and MG Edward Richardson, USA (Ret.) former Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii.



**General
Bramlett**

The speakers for this event were General David Bramlett, USA (Ret.), former Commander US Army Forces Command and Deputy Commander US Pacific Command; Dr. Adam Robinson, VA Pacific Islands Health Care System, Vice Admiral (Ret.), 36th Navy Surgeon General; and John Henry Felix, PhD.

In addition to honoring National Flag Day, the ceremony also celebrated the 248th birthday of the United States Army and the 93rd birthday of John Henry Felix.

Dr. John Henry Felix was award-

Please See Ceremony on Page 3

Hawaii Aloha Chapter, MOAA President's Message



By Dr. Fred P. Staedel

I am pleased to report that 26 members and guests attended our June luncheon meeting. Attendance is now heading in the right direction and we are looking forward to an even higher number for our August 18th luncheon meeting.

The post-COVID mission for our chapter is growth in chapter membership per se, but it is also growth in member and guest attendance at our meetings and activities. At the chapter’s annual meeting in

Please See Message on Page 2

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Message from Front Page

November, we will be voting on whether or not to continue having our meetings and activities on an “every-other month basis” or return to a monthly schedule.

At the June chapter meeting and luncheon our past president, **Mark Webster**, was presented with the MOAA “Past Chapter President Pin” issued by the MOAA national president. Also, I was honored to present to Mark the MOAA national “Col Marvin J. Harris 4-Star Award” for 2022 for our *Nā Leo O Nā Koa* monthly chapter newsletter. As our chapter newsletter editor, Mark’s level of excellence in publishing the newsletter in past years has resulted in many previous award certificates as well, and very well deserved.

It has been formally requested that the rainbow on our MOAA chapter logo be removed. Coincidentally, the chapter is currently in the process of obtaining a vendor for new shirts including special shirts for our chapter’s golf club. Some 16 years ago Mark Webster designed the rainbow logo, and in case the rainbow is removed he has designed an alternative logo featuring the national symbol with **MOAA** in large letters with our chapter name underneath. See the current and proposed logos below. Our chapter board of directors took a vote on how to handle this request and, after no clear agreement, decided that this will be an agenda item to be discussed and voted upon at the chapter’s annual General Membership meeting to be held on 16 November.

Fred 

**The Trivia Question**

Submitted by Lou Crompton every month

Wow, already July! The 2nd is the halfway date for the year...the 4th is Independence Day...the 17th is that recent unofficial celebration "World Emoji Day."..I always remember July 20 - yeah I was in Vietnam in 1969 when Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walked on DA MOON! Any chance you remember the name of their rocket?

See Trivia Answer Page 7

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 18 July 2023 0915, Golf Outing, Barbers Point Golf Course, (Friday) 92-2219 Franklin D. Roosevelt Ave., Kapolei
- 18 Aug 2023 1115, Membership Meeting/Luncheon, (Friday) Oahu Veterans' Center, Foster Village; Guest Speaker: Dennis Hwang; Topic: Hurricane Preparedness in Hawaii
- 21 Aug 2023 0904, Golf Outing, Klipper Golf Course, (Monday) Kaneohe Marine Corps Base Hawaii
- 2 Sep 2023 1200, Picnic, Foster Point, Hickam AFB (Saturday)
- 22 Sep 2023 0900, Golf Outing, Barbers Point Golf Course, (Friday) 92-2219 Franklin D. Roosevelt Ave., Kapolei
- 5 Oct 2023 0900, Scholarship Fund Committee Meeting, (Thursday) Cruickshank Room, Oahu Veterans' Center
- 23 Oct 2023 0948, Golf Outing, Leilehua Golf Course, (Monday) 99 Leilehua Golf Course Road, Wahiawa
- 16 Nov 2023 1739, Annual General Membership Meeting/ (Tentative) Mongolian BBQ; Tradewinds Club; Hickam AFB
- 20 Nov 2023 0904, Golf Outing, Klipper Golf Course, (Monday) Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station
- 10 Dec 2023 1000, Christmas Brunch/Party, Hale Ikena, (Sunday) Ft. Shafter
- 18 Dec 2023 0900, Golf Outing, Barbers Point Golf Course, (Friday) 92-2219 Franklin D. Roosevelt Ave., Kapolei

NOTICE

This newsletter, my 211th 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.

CONTACT YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Honorable (name), U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C., 20510. Phone (202) 224-3121

The Honorable (name), U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., 20515 Phone (202) 225-3121

JROTC Awards Ceremonies And Letters Of Appreciation To Our Chapter



Hilo High School presenter retired Sgt Maj Jeffery Nason



Waianae High School presenter "Roc" Arakaki




McKinley High School presenter Reese Ligget and scholarship recipient Cadet Roden




Kaimuki High School presenter **Roger Kobayashi** and scholarship recipient Cadet Miyazawa who is going to UH

Ceremony from Front Page

ed the prestigious St. Benet's Hall, University of Oxford Medal for his outstanding contribution to education, both in the United States and in the United Kingdom, and Colonel **Ed Cruickshank**, the President



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS
HILO HIGH SCHOOL "VIKING BATTALION"
556 WAIANUENUE AVENUE
HILO, HAWAII 96720



Dear Military Officers Association of America Representative,

I am very honored to have received the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Award and I really appreciate it. I never really thought I would get something like this. In fact this was my first medal, which it's something I will never forget.. I'm just very happy that my hard work and effort is paying off. I'm always trying to give the best of myself. This year, I decided to go out of my comfort zone and start doing more for JROTC. To be honest, no matter how hard I worked, I didn't really expect anything in return. This actually encouraged me to continue working hard and do my best.

Once again, thank you so much for recognizing my potential. I look forward to earning more awards as I continue in my JROTC career. Have a great day and take care.

Sincerely Yours,

ISIS MURILLO

ISIS N. ALVAREZ MURILLO
 C/CPT, US Army JROTC
 Hilo High School

Letter from Punahou School

Dear Hawaii Aloha Chapter-MOAA,

Thank you so much for awarding me the \$750 scholarship fund. I truly appreciate what you guys have done as it will help me get through college.

Mahalo,

John Yuksel Tamonte

of the Oahu Veterans' Council, was presented a Silver Patrick Henry Plaque in recognition of his many years of service to the local Veteran community.

This inaugural event, this "Massing of the Colors" ceremony, was a success due to the sup-

port of many, but most especially to those who work at the Oahu Veterans' Center. Their dedication to the State of Hawaii's Veterans was on full display and their efforts ensured a wonderful event. As mentioned, "Hawaii is a much better place because of their patriotism!"



If You Passed Away Today: Consideration for Retired Service Members

By Mark E. Overberg, Director,
Army Retirement Services

Last year, I heard a sad story about a military retiree who passed away while living in Germany. Even sadder was that he had no family there. When his death was discovered by the German authorities, they searched for the next of kin or a friend who knew his final wishes. Finding none, they buried him in a local German cemetery.

Thousands of retired service members pass away each year. Most leave a spouse or children who care for them, who will bury or cremate them, and who may receive the deceased's effects and assets – if the retired service member's wishes are known.

There are several ways for retired service members to document their assets and leave them to others, such as a will and revocable living trust. Retired Service Members may receive free legal advice from military legal assistance attorneys. You can find the office nearest you at <https://legalassistance.law.af.mil/>

In the hours after your death, will your spouse or children know what to do? Have you told them? Or better yet, have you left them final instructions to carry out your wishes?

Have you been procrastinating about planning for your death? My dad did -- until he had a stroke. When he recovered, he created "The Book." He showed each of his children, on their next visit, "where the Book lives" and what was in it. He'd included everything we needed to know down to which mortuary to call and their phone number; the cemetery plots he'd purchased for Mom and himself; the casket he wanted; and where all their assets were with account numbers.

But dad passed 13 years after his stroke, I was driving to visit him. I arrived too late to say goodbye, but

as I sat with him, I remembered his plan, his wishes. So I called my brother and told him to email me the first two pages of The Book – the instructions for what to do immediately upon his death. Ten minutes later, I had his wishes in hand, and knew what he wanted me to do. While I was very sad, I did not have the stress of trying to guess what he wanted or whom to talk to. The Book was his way of reminding us that he still loved us, even in death.



Topics to address in your final instructions:

- Getting a death certificate
- Burial or cremation plans and location
- Pre-need eligibility letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) (<https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/pre-need-eligibility/>)
- How to report a Retired Airman's death (<https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary>)
- How to schedule a benefits brief with the VA before the funeral if needed (800) 827-1000 (Benefits Hotline) or (800) 698-2411 (main information line)
- Military funeral honors (<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/leaders-service-providers/casualty-assistance/military-funeral-honors>)
- Burial flag (VA) (<https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/>)
- Headstone/grave marker or veteran's medallion for a private headstone (VA)
- Application for burial expenses from the VA (<https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/veterans-burial-allowance/>)
- Filing claim for VGLI or VALife (<https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/>), or private life insurance
- Applying for Dependency & Indemnity Compensation from the VA (<https://www.va.gov/disability/dependency-indemnity-compensation/>)
- Applying for DOD Survivor Benefit Plan annuity (<https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/survivors/ApplySBP/>)
- Applying for the arrears of retired pay (<https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/survivors/1174RetireeAOP/>)
- Transferring Thrift Savings Plan (<https://www.tsp.gov/publications/tspb31.pdf?TSP-BK-31>)
- Social Security survivors benefits (page 4) (<https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/survivors/ifyou.html>)
- Updating DEERS and ID Cards (<https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>)
- State-specific veteran benefits (<https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/Benefit-Library/State/Territory-Benefits>)
- TRICARE plan updates (<https://www.tricare.mil/LifeEvents/DeathinFamily>)
- Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Plan (877) 372-3337 or <https://www.benefeds.com/education-support/eligibility-military>



Chaplain's Corner

By Fred P. Staedel, ThD

"The Four Candles"

Four candles slowly burned. The ambiance was so soft, one could almost hear them talking.

The first candle said: "I am Peace." The world is full of anger and fighting. Nobody can keep me lit." Then the flame of Peace went out completely.

The second candle said: "I am Faith. I am no longer indispensable. It doesn't make sense that I stay lit another moment." Just then a breeze softly blew Faith's flame out.


Sadly, the third candle began to speak: "I am Love! People don't understand my importance so they simply put me aside. They even forget to love those who are nearest to them." And waiting no longer Love's flame went out.

Suddenly...a child entered the room and saw the three unlit candles. "Why aren't you burning? You're supposed to stay lit till the end." Saying this, the child began to cry. Then the fourth candle answered: "Don't be afraid, I am Hope! While I am burning, we can relight the other candles." With shining eyes, the child took the candle of Hope and lit the other candles.

The Greatest of These Is Love...but the flame of Hope should never go out of your life! With hope each of us can live with Peace, Faith, and Love.

A Prayer: "Dear God, You are my light and salvation. You are my hope. Please come into my heart, forgive all wrongs and give me Your wonderful gift of eternal Life. Help me be an instrument of Your love and cause Your light to shine on others through me." Amen.

"You, LORD, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light." (Psalms 18:28)

Fred 

June Luncheon Meeting

On or about 1115, Friday, 16 June, 26 chapter members and guests gathered in the Sullivan Room of the Oahu Veterans' Center for a meeting and an ample and delicious catered buffet luncheon followed by a slide presentation by **Walter Ozawa**.

President **Fred Staedel** opened the meeting by calling on **Fred Brunson** to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Then, **Debby Fricano** was asked to come to the podium to give the Invocation. After a recognition ceremony for our Newsletter Editor, **Mark Webster**, as mentioned in this month's President's Message, we enjoyed our luncheon.



Walter Ozawa
explaining a
travel question

Walter talked extemporaneously first about his and his wife's recent trip to Germany from 25 May until 5 June. He and **Gayle** were accompanied by **Stephen** and **Diane Tom** in a tour group of 47 who stayed at the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort, Europe's military equivalent to our Hale Koa Hotel.

Then, he gave a brief history of SpARC, the Space-Available retiree club that he now leads. It was founded about 15 years ago by **Joe Kuroda** and known as the HIKBK club since they met at the Hickam Burger King until they were finally asked to meet elsewhere. Because Walt was a former Director of the Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation, he was able to secure a meeting place the growing club in the convenient Salt Lake area.

The topics discussed at these generally quarterly meetings are the Retired Military Requirements to use Space-A Travel, How to Register, the Selection Process, and a lot of exchanging of travel anecdotes and tips.

Anyone interested in joining this fellowship to learn more about the free military travel benefits for which you are eligible, you may contact Walt at Walter@Ozawa.org or 808-258-4752 to be added to his e-mail list.



June Golf Report

HAMOOA Golf News



Leslie Bise

Director of
Golf (DOG)

As reported in last month's newsletter, the HAMOOA Golf Club participated in the Hawaii Army Museum Golf Tournament as volunteers on Friday, 16 June 2023, at the Leilehua Golf Course. The work included tournament cart preparation, posting sponsor signage at tee boxes, assisting at the pre-tournament contests, Par 3 observers, and most accurate drive official. A loud shout out for the following HAMOOA volunteers for their community service: **Myron Brumaghim, Bob Nagao, Peter Ching, Alike Watts, Owen Takenaka, Charles Padilla, Andrei Soto, Ian AhMook, and Dennis Ching.**

At Leilehua Golf Course, on Friday, 23 June 2023 the trade wind weather dominated the day's play, which means some showers, sun, and clouds. Eighteen players navigated the course with lighting fast downhill greens. I mean, three putts was pretty common.


Our team placement with the blind draw for 23 June 2023:

1st Place: **Alike Watts** (second month in a row) / Ian AhMook (guest)

2nd Place: **Bob Takao / Peter Ching**

3rd Place: **Les Bise / Aronold Iaea** (guest)

Our next outing is scheduled for Barbers Point Golf Course on Monday, 24 July 2023; first tee at 09:15.

MOAA members and guests are invited to join our golf outings. Please contact Les Bise, bisel001@hawaii.rr.com; 808-227-1462. 

**Add these Websites to your
"Bookmarks"**

<http://www.moaa.org>

<http://takeaction.moaa.org>

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

Hau'oli lā hānau

Partial List of Known July Babies

C. Mert Agena	7/02	Francis Nakamoto	7/18
Jack Bohman	7/02	Shirley Curtis	7/23
Norberto Baysa	7/04	Charles McCauley	7/23
Wesley Fong	7/06	Wallace Dung	7/24
Mary Smart	7/08	Toni Correia	7/26
Kathleen Ebey	7/11	Michele Hauser	7/26
Owen Macy	7/12	Hon Ping Chee	7/28
Robert Ackerson	7/17	Kay Kimura	7/30
Vernon Von	7/17	Michael Lighthill	7/30



**Best Wishes for many, many
more Birthdays!**

Taps

Yuriko Enomoto, 92, wife for 66³/₄ years of Life Member **Lawrence Enomoto**, peacefully "Transitioned to Heaven" Saturday morning, 1 July, at their home in Honolulu with her family beside her or present from California on Face Time.

She is survived by Larry and 3 children, 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

Services by Hosoi Mortuary and burial or inurnment arrangements at Punchbowl are pending.

Irony

Once in a while we just have to stand back in awe of the government.

The Food Stamp Program, administered by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, is proud to be distributing the greatest amount of free meals and food stamps ever - to 46 million people.

Meanwhile, the National Park Service, administered by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior, asks us to "Please Do Not Feed the Animals."

Their stated reason for the policy is because "the animals will grow dependent on handouts and will not learn to take care of themselves."

Thus ends today's lesson in irony. 

Free Public Concerts

Enjoy great patriotic music with your military comrades and be recognized for your service during this Independence Day concert season by attending free concerts by the Honolulu Wind Ensemble.



The Honolulu Wind Ensemble is the state's largest, 80-piece, concert band and their history spans over 40 years of year-round public performances. Each summer they hold public concerts with an Independence Day patriotic theme. This month there

will be concerts at

- Ala Moana Center, Center Stage, at 1900, Tuesday, 11 July, and
- Kapiolani Bandstand, at Noon on Sunday, 15 July

These patriotic-themed concert performances are a wonderful opportunity to enjoy beautiful music and recognize our serving military and veterans to whom so much is owed for our freedoms.

The selections will include


Trivia Answer

Apollo 11 [Eleven]

American Civil War Fantasy, West Side Story, America the Beautiful, Let Freedom Ring, Salute to the Armed Forces, Silverado, among others, and, of course, the traditional and rousing finale Stars and Stripes Forever.



Members of the many veterans organizations are encouraged to wear their organizations' uniform shirts and caps.

Check out <https://www.youtube.com/user/honoluluwindensemble> for many past concert videos. 

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 _____

City, State Zip _____

Spouse's Name _____

H _____ C _____

Telephone Numbers H=Home/C=Cell _____

E-mail _____

Applicant's Signature _____

Recruiter/Sponsor's Name _____

Mail Application Form and
Membership Dues Check to
Hawaii Aloha Chapter, MOAA
P. O Box 201441
Honolulu, HI 96820

CHECK APPLICABLE BOXES

STATUS RANK SERVICE

☐ Active ☐ US Army

☐ Reserve ☐ USAF

☐ National Guard ☐ US Navy

☐ Retired from AD ☐ USCG

☐ Retired from Res. ☐ USMC

☐ Former Officer ☐ USPHS

☐ Surviving (indicate ☐ NOAA

Rank above and check Service of Spouse)

☐ National MOAA Member:

MOAA No. _____

ACTIVE DUTY WAR VETERAN

☐ KOREA 06/27/50 - 01/31/55

☐ VIETNAM 02/28/61 - 05/07/75

☐ OIF/OEF 08/02/90 - TBD



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

2021



2022

2023 Hawaii Aloha Chapter Leadership

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(All Former or Retired Officers)
(Term Expires Year Indicated)

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808-721-0401

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808-988-3349 & 808-780-5901

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