

# 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>

May, 2023



## Advocacy in Action

Submitted by Col  
**Mike Fricano**,  
USAF, Ret.; Vice  
President, Hawaii Aloha Chapter



## April Event

Only eleven  
chapter mem-  
bers and



On Monday,  
24 April, I ar-  
rived in Crystal  
City, VA to  
participate in  
MOAA's annu-  
al Advocacy in

Action (AiA) event. About 100  
Chapter presidents from all across  
the country assembled at the Hy-  
att Regency Crystal City Hotel on  
25 April to be indoctrinated on  
the top issues to be presented the  
following day to their respective  
Congressional representatives and  
senators. On the 25<sup>th</sup>, we also  
heard from six commercial organ-  
izations who have partnered with  
MOAA, and provide discounts to  
MOAA members.

On Wednesday, 26 April, we  
bussed up to Capitol Hill for the  
Congressional visits. This is a  
massive and very well-organized

*Please see AiA Page 5*

## NOTICE

There is no event in May.  
Read the President's Message

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guests assembled on or about  
1100, Friday, 1 May, for the re-  
scheduled April event to tour the  
historic Hawaii Plantation Village  
in Waipahu because our chapter's  
Program Director, **Mike Frica-  
no**, was in Washington, D. C., for  
the annual Advocacy in Action  
coordinated Stormin' of the Hill.



*Tour group, front row, left to right, Dale Fitz-  
gerald, guest of Kathy Ebey, Momoko, our  
tour guide, holding 3 pieces of sugar cane (ko) for  
replanting, Becky Staedel, and Helene  
Webster; back row, 3 people who joined our  
tour group, Roberta Sullivan, Debby and  
Mike Fricano, Fred Staedel and*

*Tom and Linda Corcoran*





## Hawaii Aloha Chapter, MOAA

### President's Message

**By Dr. Fred P. Staedel**

Our chapter board of directors has become concerned with the reduced participation at our monthly meetings and activities. Only eleven (11) attended the May 1<sup>st</sup> tour and only six (6) joined for the luncheon afterwards. As announced in the April chapter newsletter, the greatly reduced attendance to the monthly meetings and activities seems to support reverting to gatherings to be held on a "every other month basis." To that end the board has directed the cancellation of the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting at the OVC. The June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting/tour will be replaced by a lunch with a guest speaker at the Oahu Veterans Center (OVC). The June newsletter will publish the meeting/activity schedule for the rest of the year. (And please refer to the CALENDAR OF EVENTS in future 2023 newsletters.)


Recently I had the privilege to represent our chapter at a very special ceremony held at the OVC. Eighteen JROTC cadets from all the high schools with JROTC programs on Oahu were honored at an OVC ceremony on Saturday, 22 April. In my capacity as our chapter president, and thus on the Oahu Veterans Council, I had the honor of being one of the award presenters.

Each JROTC high school program received \$1000 and each honored cadet received \$150 college scholarship money along with the OVC "Certificate of Excellence Award." Of the cadets receiving this honor, eight were young ladies. And some hundred and thirty people were in attendance. Brigadier General Moses Kaouiwi, USA, (Ret.) was emcee for the event.

Once again, our chapter newsletter received the 2022 Col. Marvin J. Harris Communication Four-Star Award from MOAA National. It was presented to the Hawaii Aloha Chapter and was received by **Mike Fricano**, who represented our chapter at the MOAA Advocacy in Action (AiA) Event held in Washington D.C. Thank you Mike for serving our chapter in this important capacity and congratulations to **Mark Webster**, our newsletter editor, for another

MOAA Chapter Newsletter 4-Star Award.

Finally, you may have noticed the lack of email addresses for your board members and committee chairs in last month's newsletter. We need to take this drastic step because of repeated occurrences of "someone" hijacking/spoofing our addresses to ask other members for money, gift cards, etc.

While we saw through these ruses immediately, the board felt it best to eliminate future incidents by removing email addresses from the newsletter. If you need to contact someone, please use their phone number. **Fred** 

### The Trivia Question

What do YOU think about when you hear Cinco de Mayo? Maybe PARTY - it's margarita time & tacos. What is historical significance [if any] of Cinco de Mayo? If you forgot your foreign language Spanish class - it's 5 May.

*See Trivia Answer Page 7*

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 22 May 2023 0830, Golf Outing, Klipper Golf Course, (Monday) 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 1115, Luncheon Meeting, Oahu Veterans (Friday) Center; Guest Speaker Waltr Ozawa; Topic: SpARC, The Space-A Retirees Club
- 23 June 2023 0800, Golf Outing, Leilehua Golf Course, (Monday) 99 Leilehua Golf Course Road, Wahiawa
- 18 Aug 2023 1115, Membership Meeting/Luncheon; (Friday) Guest Speaker: Dennis Hwang; Topic: Hurricane Preparedness in Hawaii
- 2 Sep 2023 1200, Picnic, Foster Point, Hickam AFB
- 5 Oct 2023 0900, Scholarship Fund Committee Meeting, (Thursday) Cruickshank Room, Oahu Veterans' Center

### NOTICE

This newsletter, my 209<sup>th</sup> 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 Scholarship Fund

## **2023 CHAPTER DONATIONS FOR ROTC & JROTC CADETS**

**Amount Received as of 30 April: \$9,185.10**

**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; Vernon Voin; 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.

### Hawaii Aloha Chapter Scholarship Fund Donation Form

Member/Donor Name(s)

Amount of Donation

Mailing Address

City & State

Zip Code

Email Address

Phone Number

Please make checks payable to: **Hawaii Aloha Chapter Scholarship Fund (MOAA)** and mail it with this form to the address indicated above.

☐

Please check the box if you do not want a written receipt.

☐


Please check the box if you wish to remain anonymous





# University of Hawaii ROTC & High School JROTC Awards Ceremonies

*Submitted by* LTC Tonio Correa,  
USA, Ret., ROTC/JROTC  
Coordinator

Our Hawai'i Aloha Chapter has a member present at all Oahu High Schools and UH. As many Veteran Organizations are struggling with finding presenters we are doing good thanks to our volunteers. Neighbor island presenters are still needed so if you know anyone who is willing to present send them my way. Mahalo for your support; the cadets really appreciate it. 



**Wes Fong**, center in both photos, at University of Hawaii ROTC Awards Ceremony on 4 May with Army, Air Force and Navy cadets and their instructors.



*Who is that masked cadet receiving an award from our President Fred Staedel? It's Kaiser High School Cadet Brennan Tama-shiro.*



**Ed Gayagas** presenting an award to Radford H.S. Cadet



**Toni Correia** giving an award to Wai-pahu H.S. Cadet Ihannella.



**Mark Webster**, left. Presenting an award to Cadet Kaila Scjiff and **Wesley Fong**, right, affixing a medal on Cadet Ha'aheo Au-Raycher on 5 May at Punahou School.



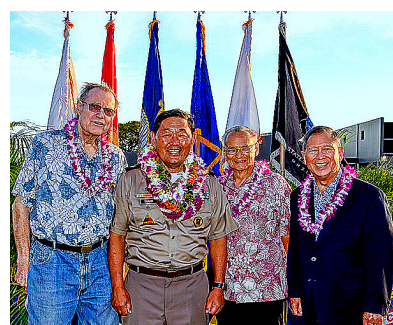
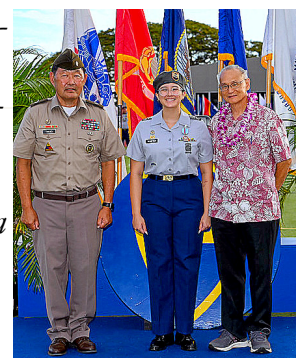
**Farrington H.S. Cadet Randy**, center, with **Ed Gayagas** and **Toni Correia**



*Outstanding Cadet John Tamonte, who has demonstrated exceptional potential for military leadership, is being awarded a \$750 check and a certificate by Wesley Fong during the JROTC Awards Ceremonies at Punahou School on 5 May.*

**All Punahou Photos Courtesy of Punahou**

*Hawaii Aloha Chapter members **Bob Takao**, Senior Military Instructor, and **Sanford Ching** flanking Cadet Olivia Woofer, recipient of the ROA Award*



*Left to right, **Mark Webster**, **Bob Takao**, **Sanford Ching** and **Wes Fong***



*Left to right, **Bob Takao**, who is retiring from Punahou this year; **Mark Webster**, MOAA Awardees **Kaila Schiff**, **Ha'aheo Au-Raycher**, and **John Tamonte**, and **Wesley Fong***



*Chapter members **Bob Takao** and **Tom Farrell**, who presented the AUSA Award to Cadet **Sam Barringer***





## Chaplain's Corner

**By Fred P. Staedel, ThD**

It has come to thought that answers to prayer sometimes don't come, and certainly do not come according to our own human desires or one's individual timetable. Why is this so one may ask? And what is the answer? What came to thought are the words "perseverance" and "steadfastness."

The Bible tells us: "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him." (James 1:12)

'One could infer from this Biblical admonition that we must trust our faith and persevere in our desire for grace and healing; including patient answers to our prayers. In this context, "perseverance" is a holy virtue and one that should be employed in our praying. "To that end keep alert with all perseverance." (Ephesians 6:18).

We must apply "patient prayer" when seeking answers to one's life. We must be steadfast in knowing that when we pray the Lord's Prayer, "Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven," that it will be Divine answers that come in due time and therefore we must be steadfast in knowing that prayerful answers will come as we persevere in knowing that it is God's will, God's timetable, and God's answers and not our own. "And let us not grow weary in doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. (Galatians 6:9) So, we must be steadfast in our knowing that God's will is always on time!

"For you know that testing of your faith produces steadfastness." (James 1:3). **Fred**



## AiA from Front Page

lobbying effort for MOAA's legislative initiatives. I made appointments to make our presentation to Hawaii's two representatives and two senators. Succinctly, the legislative proposals we wanted our Congressional delegation to support included restoring the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) to 100%, and preserving access to the TRICARE pharmacy network. Both of these initiatives support a third request, Support to the All-Volunteer Force by passing meaningful legislation to improve the quality of life of those in uniform and their families.



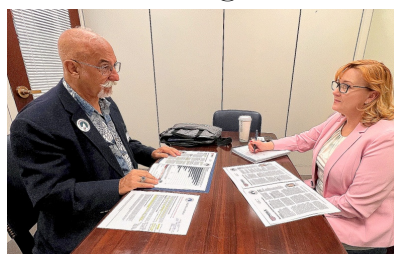
**Mike Fricano** in a meeting with Representative Ed Caser



**Mike** with Ben Chao, Rep. Tokuda's Legislative Director



**Mike** and David Marshall, Sen. Schatz's Legislative Fellow



**Mike** instructing Joy Craig, Sen. Hirono's staffer

**MOAA Photos**

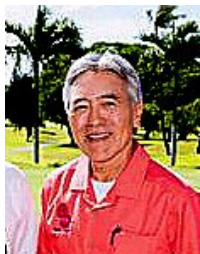
Along with my MOAA "handler," Rachel Barth, the MOAA Magazine and Creative Director, I met with Rep. Ed Case and his Chief of Staff, Tim Nelson, in his Rayburn Building office. Unfortunately, I was not able to meet in person with Congresswoman Tokuda or Senators Schatz and Hirono. However, I did have very productive meetings with their staffs. This was an easy sell, and all were quite receptive. It was the first time this event was held in person since 2019, as it's been done virtually for the last three years. I was very surprised to see a picture of me and Congressman Case in MOAA's online newsletter (<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2023-news-articles/advocacy/advocacy-in-action-moaa-members-bring-our-message-to-capitol-hill/>).

The next day, Thursday, 27 April, back at the hotel, we assembled for debriefings and sessions for council and chapter presidents. A panel of MOAA VPs explained what they do and how they can help us. Then, the Col Marvin J.

**AiA Concluded on Page 6**

## April Golf Report

### HAMOOAA Golf News



**Leslie Bise**  
Director of  
Golf (DOG)


.On 24 April 2023, Monday, the HAMOOAA Golf Club played at Leilehua Golf Course for the second time in two months. Our year schedule called for our club to play at Barbers Point, but greens aeration had us revisit Leilehua GC. The weather cooperated fully, a little shower, but all in all a dry outing. This is perfect golf weather; not too hot, not too wet, not too windy, just right.

Our team placement with the blind draw for 24 April 2023:

1st Place: **Russ Grocki/Dianne Hara**

2nd Place: **Janice Kinoshita/Wendell Chun**

3rd Place: **Bob Takao/Peter Ching**

Our next outing is scheduled for Klipper Golf Course on Monday, 22 May; first tee at 08:30. This is a change to our original tee time. Klipper is sending us out early because of a recently scheduled tournament. MOAA members and guests are invited to join our golf outings. Please contact **Les Bise**, at [bisel001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:bisel001@hawaii.rr.com); 808-227-1462. 


## Pertinent Legislation

*Submitted by* MG **Robert Lee**, USA, Ret.,  
Legislative Liaison



A section of the huge National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, presently being finalized in the U. S. House of Representatives, has a provision for extending TRICARE to

the guard and reserves.

The National Guard Association and ROA and other Veteran Service Organizations are pushing for TRICARE coverage for any member of the National Guard or Reserves. This would alleviate the high medical costs to employers nationwide. 

## Hau'oli lā hānau

### Partial List of Known May Babies

Clarence K.K. Chinn	5/01	Kazuto Tomoyasu	5/16
James Fromm	5/01	Donald Aten	5/18
Chester Saito	5/01	Peter Ching	5/20
Arnold Drill	5/05	Samuel Heth	5/22
Gershon Bergeisen	5/06	Louise Frye (102!)	5/23
Walter Kinoshita	5/09	John Ma	5/28
Gail Hayashi	5/10	Kenneth Yamada	5/28
Louis Torraca	5/13	Roger Kobayashi	5/31
Dayle Carlson	5/14	Chester Wong	5/31




## Best Wishes for many, many more Birthdays!

*AiA From Page 5*

Harris Communications Awards were conducted alphabetically by state, and I was honored to accept the Four-Star Award on behalf of the Hawaii Aloha Chapter and our newsletter. Congratulations to **Mark Webster!**

Finally, the week wrapped up with a dinner on Thursday night. Congressman Don Bacon from Nebraska was the guest speaker, and he talked about support for the military. He's a retired Air Force Brigadier General, and is also a MOAA member who will lead a new House panel focused on military quality-of-life issues!

I spent all day Friday, 28 April, flying back to Hawaii. This trip was exhausting, but very worthwhile, and I hope to get the opportunity to represent the Hawaii Aloha Chapter at next year's event. 

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

<http://www.moaa.org>

<http://takeaction.moaa.org>

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



## Emergency Room Visits

Submitted by **Lou Crompton,**  
*Personal Affairs*

If a retired vet receives treatment at a non-VA facility, the vet could now get some of their out-of-pocket costs reimbursed years later, even if their claim was previously denied. The VA's new rule took effect 24 April which covers these past costs and reimburses veterans going forward.


The prior patient will have to file a new claim by 22 February 2024 to get the money. The retroactive reimbursements only apply to VA patients who received emergency room treatments for a non-service connected condition and who also had had health insurance through a third-party insurer.

The VA will only reimburse coinsurance—defined as the patient's out-of-pocket cost-sharing percentage with their third-party insurer—at non-VA emergency departments and won't reimburse flat-rate copayments or payments towards flat-rate deductibles.

## Trivia Answer

On 5 May 1862, Napoleon sent his French army to Puebla, Mexico, to establish a French presence in that land. The army was unable to capture forts atop hills overlooking Puebla. About 1,000 French troops died in the Battle of Puebla before they withdrew. Celebrated holiday on national calendar in Mexico. Now you know, so your chulupas will taste better...

For conditions not considered service-connected, VA can also pay for emergency medical care but only under certain conditions: Care must be provided in a hospital emergency department; care must be given to treat life- or health-threatening conditions; the required care must not be available to the veteran at a VA facility and the veteran must have utilized care at the VA within the last two years. In an emergency, the VA says the veteran should go to the "nearest emergency department."

The VA acknowledges that some veterans may never have filed a claim since on or after 1 February 2010 because they knew it would be denied. Now, they can still file a claim until the 22 February 2024 deadline. 

## 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
<input type="checkbox"/> Active		<input type="checkbox"/> US Army
<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve		<input type="checkbox"/> USAF
<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"/> Surviving (indicate		<input type="checkbox"/> 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

**MOAA**<sup>®</sup>



**2021**



**2022**

## 2023 Hawaii Aloha Chapter Leadership

### Board of Directors

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

Fred W. Brunson, CDR, USN (2025)  
808-234-8481

Antoinette "Toni" Correia, LTC, USA (2024)  
808-721-0401

Wesley F. Fong, COL, USA (2023)  
808-595-6127 & 808-220-5266

Mike Fricano, Col, USAF (2023)  
808-386-8575

John S. S. Kim, LTC, USAF (2023)  
808-988-3349 & 808-780-5901

Calvin "Kelly" Lau, MG, USA (2025)  
808-373-7938

Jason C. Seal, Col, USMC (2025)  
808-277-7536

Fred P. Staedel, Capt, USAF (2024)  
808-445-1454

Roberta Sullivan, Surviving Spouse (2024)  
808-623-2243

### Officers & Committee Chairs

(All Former or Retired Officers)

President: Fred Staedel, Capt, USAF  
808-445-1454

Vice President: Mike Fricano, Col, USAF  
808-386-8575

Secretary: Roberta Sullivan,  
Surviving USN Spouse;  
808-623-2243

Treasurer: John Kim, LTC, USAF  
808-988-3349

Surviving Spouses: Vacant

Chaplain: Fred Staedel, Capt, USAF  
808-445-1454

Community Affairs: John Ma, BG, USA  
808-486-4805

JROTC/ROTC: Toni Correia, LTC, USA  
808-721-0401

Legislative Liaison: Robert Lee, MG, USA  
808-486-1488

### Committee Chairs & Activities

Membership: Mark Webster, LCDR, USN  
808-734-5994

Membership Deputy: Kathleen Ebey, Surviving USN Spouse  
808-488-0743

Personal Affairs: Lou Crompton, Lt Col, USAF  
808-526-3022

Programs: Mike Fricano, Col, USAF  
808-386-8575

Publications: Mark Webster, LCDR, USN  
808-734-5994

Veterans Affairs: Vacant

Golf: Leslie Bise, LTC, USA  
808-625-1010

Webmaster: Bob Rinaldo  
203-758-1898

#### Scholarship Fund Trustees

Chairman: John Ma, BG, USA  
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