

# Na Leo O Na Koa

(Voices of Warriors)



2004 Chapter Rating



Chartered January 27, 2000

*Newsletter of the Aloha Chapter,  
An Affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America*

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August 2006

## Aloha Chapter Members Gather In The Treetops For FEMA

Our Aloha Chapter July luncheon was held at the Treetops Restaurant in Manoa Valley. Chapter members enjoyed a talk by fellow chapter member, **John Seely**, who spoke of his experiences as a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Community Service Officer in the United States. He has been called to service in disasters all over the country and usually served for a month or two. He described the process in which he is called up and given about 20 minutes to decide whether or not he can serve during that disaster period. FEMA has about 2,500 permanent positions and calls on additional personnel such as him to take on positions when disaster strikes. He gathers as much information about the affected area(s) and forwards that information to FEMA Headquarters which compiles the information and decides on a course of action.

He called on member **Sam Apuna, Jr.**, who also serves FEMA in a similar position and happened to be in Honolulu and attended the luncheon, to describe his experiences in Hawaii disasters, such as Hurricane Iniki on Kauai. Sam pointed out that during that disaster the National Guard had sent tents to Kauai, but when the general did not see any tents on his helicopter tour, he asked **Sam**, why not? Later, they discovered that the victims had used the tents, but they had erected them indoors to keep out the weather since their roofs were gone. This is why the general did not see any tents. The residents were still living in their homes inside the tents.

**John** pointed out that the agencies that really do a superb job in serving the public in disasters are the Red Cross, Salvation Army and church organizations in the affected areas. Sometimes it is hard



**John Seely**, chapter member, addressing members at July luncheon about his experiences in disaster relief for FEMA

for people like him to see the suffering and anxieties that disaster victims endure, such as being unemployed, home destroyed and having no money. The hardest part is that he has to tell them that there is nothing anyone can do for them at that time.

It was a most informative and interesting talk that we all enjoyed.

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## **President's Message**

**By Vernon Von**

### **PHRASE OF THE MONTH: PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY**



Taking personal responsibility is essential in preparing for a natural disaster. These were the concluding words of member **John Seeley** as he ended his talk to our luncheon on Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup>. His talk was very informative and timely as we prepare for the coming hurricane season. We all need a plan in the event a hurricane strikes this island. We must be prepared to take shelter and have enough food, water and clothing, plus our personal belongings to sustain us for at least two weeks. Based on his own personal experiences in providing aid and assistance to disaster victims from Florida to Guam for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), he felt that government agencies, Red Cross, and local churches can be counted on to help. For a major disaster, the military can be counted on to provide the quickest and best organized assistance because they already have the equipment and communications. However, he stressed, the paramount thing people can do is take care of themselves by assuming personal responsibility by being prepared before disaster strikes.

We were also privileged to have long-time member **Sam Apana, Jr.**, from Mesa, Arizona, contribute from his long experience with FEMA, too.

You can help and, at the same time, get involved by helping member **Norman Fujiwara**, who is collecting clothing and personal grooming items for homeless veterans living on Barbers Point property. Contact **Norman** at 626-4630 and help him collect and dispense your donations.

We staffed a table at last month's Operation Gratitude for our National Guard and Reserve forces on Oahu. The event was fairly well at-

tended by members of the Guard and Reserves as well as their families. **Bob Kozuki** and **Marion Von** helped to dispense information about our Chapter and MOAA.

Our **Give Me 10** membership campaign is well underway and I want to remind all of you to sign up at least one new member for MOAA as well as our Chapter. It is a proven fact that the best way to get more members is by friends talking to friends. Help your chapter be a winner. Let's be a winning chapter again this year! **Vern**



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

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

### **CORRECTION**

Just like in the big daily newspapers, sometimes errors creep into our little monthly newsletter.

In the July issue, page 4, in the CONGRATULATIONS box, a new life member's name was inadvertently misspelled and the wrong service listed for **DAVIDSON LUEHRING, CDR, USN, Ret.** Sorry for the error! **Mark**

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Aug 14, 2006 — 1000, Merrie Ladies Buffet Luncheon and Make-Up Session; Hale Koa, Ft. Shafter (Monday)
- Aug 17, 2006 — 1000-1300, Makua Valley Tour, Makua (Thursday) Military Reservation Gate, Makua Valley Road, Makaha
- Aug 20, 2006 — 1300, Bridge Group Party, Fahrni Realty Classroom, Aiea (Sunday)
- Aug 28, 2006 — Golf Outing, Mamala Bay Golf Club, Hickam AFB (Monday)
- Sept 21, 2006 — C-17 aircraft tour (tentative) (Thursday)
- Sept 22, 2006.— Golf Outing, Leilehua Gof Club, Shofield Barracks (Friday)

### **Notice**

*This Newsletter is published monthly as an official publication of Aloha Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 19267, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96817-8267. Views expressed herein are not necessarily chapter policy.*



# Hale Koa Hotel's Wine & Dine Experience

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The Hale Koa welcomes all active duty and retired military, Reserve/National Guard members and dependents, current and retired Department of Defense civilians and sponsored guests.



## **Merrie Ladies Get Even More Beautiful!**

### **MAKE - UP, COLOR, AND YOU**

On Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, the Merrie Ladies will gather at the Hale Ikena for a demonstration by a professional make-up artist, Leona Komine, and a color consultant, Kim Kubo.

Leona is the 2004 Mrs. Hawaii and works at the *Color Cuts Salon* on Ala Moana Blvd. She will share tips on skin care and make up techniques for the busy woman. Kim works with Leona and will teach us about what colors are best for us to wear.

PLACE: Hale Ikena, Ft. Shafter  
DATE: Monday, August 14, 2006  
TIME: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
COST: \$15.00 per person  
(includes lunch buffet)  
RSVP: No later than August 6<sup>th</sup>  
CALL: **Nari Hamlin**, 486-7159;  
**Marion Von**, 732-3908;  
**Helene Webster**, 734-5994



## **Academic Year 2007-2008 Scholarship Program**

The Aloha Chapter Scholarship Fund Military Officers Association (MOAA) has announced its scholarship program for the Academic Year 2007-2008. Up to one-thousand dollars (\$1000) will be awarded to undergraduate applicants who are currently enrolled in or will be applying for enrollment in Academic Year 2007-2008 in one of Hawaii's universities or colleges, and who is or will be pursuing studies leading to a career as a teacher, nurse, or as a military officer who is or will be enrolled in the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC).

Winning applicants will be selected on the basis of financial need, scholastic ability or potential, and apparent excellent character and personal qualities.

Application forms may be requested and obtained by writing to the address on the next page or by e-mail to **See Scholarships on Page 4**

## Scholarships

[okadahs@lava.net](mailto:okadahs@lava.net). Please provide your name and address where the application should be mailed. Completed forms should be addressed to the same address:

Aloha Chapter Scholarship Fund MOAA  
**Attn.: Howard S. Okada**  
 4300 Waialae Avenue #1202-A  
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

**DEADLINE:** Completed forms must be received at the above address postmarked not later than April 30, 2007. Successful scholarship recipients will be notified during June 2007.

The Aloha Chapter Scholarship Fund Military Officers Association of America is a non-profit organization of active, reserve, National Guard, and retired military officers and their families of all uniformed services dedicated to the well-being of all of our service members and their families as they serve our nation. **See Scholarships Page 5**

## MOAA Backs Bill to Address VA Identity Theft

On July 18, MOAA's Deputy Director of Government Relations, COL Bob Norton, USA (Ret) provided testimony before the House Veterans' Affairs Committee stating the Association's support for the committee's effort to strengthen the VA's information security program.

A firestorm of criticism over the potential identity theft of the records of millions of veterans, active duty, National Guard/reserve servicemembers, and survivors is spurring a bi-partisan effort in the House to craft legislation to protect these groups' sensitive personal information and to shore up VA information from the top down. House Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Steve Buyer (R-IN) and Acting Ranking Member Bob Filner (D-CA) announced at the hearing Tuesday that the Committee and legislators from the Government Reform and other committees are working together to fashion a bill that would address underlying information security problems and authorize services for veterans in the event of any future theft of their records. Buyer said he had been working on fixing the oversight of VA data operations for seven years.

Four panels presented testimony at the hearing including a group of four House legislators, former VA Chief Information Officers (CIO), VA Deputy Secretary Gordon Mansfield, and a panel of military and veterans' service organization witnesses: the American Legion, MOAA, The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA), and the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA).

The (draft) Veterans Identity and Credit Protection Act of 2006 would elevate the VA Chief Information Officer (CIO) on par with the three mission functions of the VA: Health, Benefits, and National Cemetery Administrations. The bill would also authorize and direct the VA to provide free credit reporting and fraud resolution services to veterans harmed in the event of a future illegal use of their personal information.

**See VA on Page 5**

## Leaving the Military?

Continue to Make a Difference

## Become a Teacher

- Go to "doe-jobs.k12.hi.us"
  - Click on: Troops to Teachers icon
  - You may be qualified to receive a  
\*\$5,000 Stipend or \*\$10,000 Bonus
- \* Pending availability of funds

Contact: Hawaii Troops to Teachers at 587-5580 ext 409

Neighbor Islands: call 1-800-420-3688 email: [hawaiittt@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:hawaiittt@notes.k12.hi.us)

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



**Troops to Teachers**



## July Bridge Report

The July Chapter Party Bridge session was hosted by **Len** and **Helen Fahrni** and held at their realty classroom on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1 PM. There were 5 tables again, and the following chapter members and spouses participated: **Mitzi Austin**, **Ken & Lia Carroll**, **Bob & Mimi Deibler**, **Len & Helen Fahrni**, **Bill & Trudi Ernst**, **Les & Shirley Ihara**, **Gary & Bev Jensen**, **Dave & Lois Luehring**, **Ken & Lillian Patterson**, and **Dick & Charleen Towne**.



The 6 highest scorers and Slam winners

*Sitting left to right are: Shirley Ihara-5th, Mitzi Austin-3rd and Slam partner, Lois Luehring-2nd, and Lillian Patterson-Slam partner.*

*Standing, left to right are: Helen Fahrni-4th, Ken Patterson-Top Scorer, and Bill Ernst-6th.*

The next bridge session will be held at the Fahrni Realty classroom on Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 1 PM. Hosts for the session are **Dick & Charleen Towne**, who can be contacted at 623-9731.

Those who have not signed up yet but would like to play on that date need to call either of them by Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.      **Les** 

### Scholarships

The Aloha Chapter Scholarship Fund of MOAA has been designated by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c) (3) tax exempt organization. Tax ID number is EIN 99-0356794. **Howard** 

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\*Rates are subject to change beginning Oct. 1, 2006.

### VA

Testifying for MOAA, COL Norton emphasized that:

\* elevation of the CIO to an Under Secretary position would focus responsibility for information security in the VA at a high level and help restore and improve data and information collaboration with DoD;

\* integration of the new billet in the VA's bureaucracy would be challenging but was needed to protect veterans' sensitive information, advance "seamless transition" of service member data between DoD and the VA and improve VA business processes;

\* MOAA was appreciative of the bi-partisan approach to the legislation and the provisions that would require the government to provide fraud monitoring services to affected individuals at no cost to them;

\* the government should begin to develop alternative personal identifiers other than the Social Security Number to reduce the risk of future ID theft



## Aloha Chapter Golf Report For July

**By Norm Fujiwara**

This past week I have been on "pins and needles" with visions of "rain check" dancing around my face. I have been watching the "severe weather station" and they kept reporting that Hurricane Daniel will have no effect on the Islands BUT there is a possible maybe chance that it will bring some rain here on Friday, July 28, our golf day. Although the weather yesterday gave some indication that it had a possible maybe chance for some rain but this morning driving to Kaneohe was smooth sailing weather-wise; traffic-wise it was terrible at the H2 — H1 merger. In fact, I think I heard strains of *Oh What A Beautiful Morning* by **Joe Kuroda** as we approached the H3 tunnel.

We had some definite maybe rain just as we started playing and again when we were playing the back nine but in between it was a beautiful day.

There were twenty-one players signed up to play, however we had one last minute casualty of some sort, while the reason for the other no-show remains a mystery.

The nineteen participants from all appearances had a great time. We had one first time guest, my neighbor **Tony Marks**. There were a handful of seldom players, **Augie Rey**, guest of the **Katsarskys**, the snowbirds from Marin County, **Stan and Phyllis Yasumoto** and **Stan Furukawa**.

The format for the day for the mega jackpot was the two player blind partner. Every player played their regular game than partners were determined by drawing numbers, matching numbers became pairs. The player's net scores were totaled and the low total determined the winners. The lucky winners included: in third place **Honeyjean Katsarsky** and **Chuck McCauley**, in second place **Stan Yasumoto** and **Augie Rey**, the grand champions were **Tony Marks** and **yours truly**. The remainder of the participants included: **Allen Ono**, **Robert Kozuki**, **Marv Baum**, **Leroy Perry**, **Gordon Cho**, **Dick Towne**, **Len Katsarsky**, **Vernon Von**, **Joe Kuroda**, **Yoshi Nakamura**, **Alice Fujiwara** and **Phyllis Yasumoto**. There were only three wahine players this month.

Mahalo nui to all you participants.

Aloha and  
good golfing!



Norm



### Recruit A New Member in 2006!

Your Aloha Chapter is always looking for new members—active duty, retirees, and auxiliary members, all are welcome and will enjoy the camaraderie of the Aloha Chapter. Make it your goal to recruit at least one new member in 2006. For more information, contact **Gordon Cho**, **Vernon Von** or any member.

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**RESERVATION FORM  
MAKUA VALLEY TOUR  
Thursday, AUGUST 17, 2006**

10:00 AM — 1:00 PM

**Member:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Spouse** \_\_\_\_\_

**Guest:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Transportation** \_\_\_\_\_ (**Please check, if needed**)

**Please send in your reservation by Friday, August 11, 2006 to:**

Aloha Chapter, MOAA  
P. O. Box 19267  
Honolulu, HI 96817

**Note: You may also make your reservation via:  
e-mail – [harold@hele.net](mailto:harold@hele.net) or by phone – 944-4010**



**Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Retired Active Former

Reserve National Guard Auxiliary\*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Name Aloha Chapter, HI

Chapter Recruiter \_\_\_\_\_

\*Surviving spouse of eligible officer.

Dues to MOAA are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal tax purposes. Annual membership dues include a \$12 subscription to MILITARY OFFICER magazine.

## Makua Valley Tour

Our Aloha Chapter has been granted permission by Schofield Barracks to conduct an escorted tour of the Makua Valley Training Facility.

If you wish to participate in this tour of this high-tech facility for training our troops prior to deployment, please complete the form to the left.

We will assemble at the gate no later than 10:00 AM to begin the tour. The gate is indicated at the top of the map to the left. It is on Makua Valley Road which intersects to the right of Farrington Hwy quite a bit beyond Makaha.

Also, be advised that this tour will involve a bit of hiking during the scheduled three-hour tour.

Finally, bring at least \$10 to cover the cost of a bento lunch, the cost of which is yet to be determined.

Hope to see you at this unique opportunity to see our troops in action.

**Harold**



Aloha Chapter  
Military Officers Association  
Of America  
P.O. Box 19267  
Honolulu HI 96817-8267



MOAA Seal

Aloha Chapter



Awards

- \* 2000 Outstanding Chapter Runner-Up
- \* 2000 3-Membership Recruiting Awards
- \* 2001 Outstanding Chapter
- \* 2001 Membership Recruiting Award
- \* 2002 5-Star Chapter
- \* 2002 Excellence in Recruiting Award
- \* 2003 Honorable Mention Newsletter
- \* 2003 4-Star Chapter
- \* 2004 Winner Best Website
- \* 2004 2nd Runner-Up Electronic Newsletter
- \* 2004 4-Star Chapter
- \* **2005 Winner-Cat VII "Give Me 10"  
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Clarence Agena, USA	677-4103	cimagenal@verizon.net
Anna Blackwell, AUX	739-9164	annagram2@aol.com
Jack Bohman, USA	235-8078	jbohman59@hawaii.rr.com
Joseph Magaldi, Jr., USMC	222-2013	magaldij001@hawaii.rr.com

### Committee Chairs

Community Services: Sam Heard, 488-8897,  
[jetsethawaii@hotmail.com](mailto:jetsethawaii@hotmail.com)

Fundraising: Herbert Nakagawa Jr., 271-1172,  
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[wesleyf.fong@hawaiianetel.net](mailto:wesleyf.fong@hawaiianetel.net)

### Officers/Executive Committee

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Vice Pres.-Harold Kuwahara	944-4010	<a href="mailto:harold@hele.net">harold@hele.net</a>
Secretary-Gordon Cho	484-2400	<a href="mailto:gcho440443@aol.com">gcho440443@aol.com</a>
Treasurer-Art Yamamoto	833-3111	<a href="mailto:aty@verizon.net">aty@verizon.net</a>