

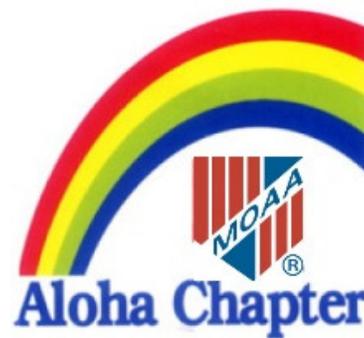
# Nā Leo O Nā Koa

(Voices of Warriors)



2007 Chapter Rating

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



Chartered January 27, 2000

Volume No. 12, Issue No. 4

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April 2011

## JPAC Tour

Approximately 43 members and guests had gathered by 10 AM on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, to go on the tour of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) at Hickam AFB.



Because of the size of our group, we were divided into 2 groups, alternating between viewing the orientation video of JPAC's overall mission in their conference room and touring the Central Identification Laboratory, the largest forensics laboratory in the world. The staff of JPAC gave us a very thorough, professional and interesting presentation.



*Jane Kekoa, our Program Chairman, welcoming some of the members and guests assembled in the JPAC Conference Room.*



*Photo of identification laboratory gleaned from JPAC web site.*



*After thanking our gracious hosts for a marvelous tour, all of us went to the nearby Sea Breeze Restaurant for a very filling, delicious buffet.*

## Dead Downwind

Did you know that Honolulu International Airport was originally named John Rodgers Airport? Or that the airport's main terminal building and the road leading to it and alongside the Ewa Concourse are still named for John Rodgers? But, who was John Rodgers?

Up to now, the dramatic story of one of the greatest heroes of 20<sup>th</sup>-century Hawaii has been virtually unknown.

Join us at the Hickam Officers' Club for a luncheon at 11:00 AM on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, for a riveting presentation by **Bill Riddle**,



**See Luncheon Page 4**

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## President's Message by Robert Kozuki

The March program was our visit to the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) whose mission is to identify the remains of service members who died in past conflicts. We had an excellent turn-out as many Aloha Chapter members showed considerable interest in the work done by members of JPAC. Thank you **Jane Kekoa** and your Program Committee in organizing our visit to JPAC and the sumptuous buffet luncheon afterwards at the nearby Sea Breeze Restaurant.

A reminder to our membership that **Herb Nakagawa**, our fundraising person, will have additional information in the mail on our upcoming annual Chicken Sale, May 1, 2011, to be held again at the Kalihi Waena Elementary School on Gulick Avenue. Your generous support will be greatly appreciated.

The annual Army Museum Society Golf tournament will be on May 25, 2011, at the Klipper Golf Course, Kaneohe. Please support the tournament either as a player or volunteer. Your contact person is **Gordon Cho** at 484 2400 or [Gcho440443@aol.com](mailto:Gcho440443@aol.com).

This is a reminder to our membership that we are up-dating our membership directory. Please review your name and correct as needed the information on your rank, name of spouse, address, telephone number & email address. Please provide this information to our publisher, **Mark Webster** ([Markster96816@gmail.com](mailto:Markster96816@gmail.com)).

The Aloha Chapter Party Bridge group continues to meet monthly under the leadership of **Shirley Ihara** and husband **Les Ihara**. Aloha Chapter members interested in joining this group should contact **Shirley** and **Les** at 239 7947 or [lsi@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:lsi@hawaii.rr.com).

The Aloha Chapter Golf group coordinated by **Norman Fujiwara** is always looking for new players from our membership. I'm told guests are welcome and you need to contact **Norm** at 6264630 or [nfujiwara@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:nfujiwara@hawaiiantel.net). 

## Chicken Sale Fundraiser

Our annual Aloha Chapter Fundraiser will be held on May Day, Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, at the same location as last year. That was the Kalihi Waena Elementary School, 1240 Gulick Avenue, in the lower or makai parking lot.

We again offer the opportunity for you to donate part or all of your chickens to the Institute for Human Services (IHS) for their Sunday lunch meal for their disadvantaged residents.

We also will need volunteers to pack and sell chickens from 0900 to 1200 as well as another group to go to IHS to cut and serve chickens for lunch. After an hour of packing and set up, this event turns into an enjoyable social event for all in attendance.

Participation and the purchase of chickens is strictly voluntary, and we realize that we are in tough economic times, but we hope you gladly give as much as you can for those in much greater distress.

**Herb** 

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| April 14, 2011 | 10:00 AM, EXCOM Meeting, Kalihi Union (Thursday) Church, 2214 N. King Street, Honolulu |
| April 17, 2011 | 1:00 PM, Bridge Bunch Party, Fahrni (Sunday) Realty Classroom, Aiea. Hostess: Lois     |
| April 21, 2011 | 11:00 AM, Luncheon, Hickam O'Club (Thursday) Guest Speaker: Author Bill Riddle         |
| April 22, 2011 | 9:00 AM, Golf Outing, Navy/Marine Golf (Friday) Course, Valkenburgh St., Pearl Harbor  |
| May 1, 2011    | 9:00 AM, Annual Chicken Sale Fund-raiser, Kalihi-Waena Elementary School (Sunday)      |
| May 2, 2011    | 11:30 AM, Merrie Ladies Luncheon Party (Monday) Stage Restaurant, 1250 Kapiolani Blvd. |
| Dec 9, 2011    | 6:00 PM, Christmas Dinner, Kalia Room, (Friday) Hale Koa Hotel, Ft. DeRussy, Waikiki   |

## Notice

*This newsletter, my 64<sup>th</sup> issue of Nā Leo O Nā Koa, is published monthly by Professional Image, Mapunapuna, as an official publication of Aloha Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 19267, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96817.*

*Views expressed herein are not necessarily chapter policy.*

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## Merrie Ladies' Birthday Party

Did you know our *Merrie Ladies* group will be 6 years old this summer? Time has surely flown by and we want to celebrate our birthday this coming May. The ladies plan to have a luncheon at the STAGE RESTAURANT, located in the Inspiration Furniture building on Kapiolani Blvd. Please bring a small gift (bar of soap, toilet paper, paper towel, hand lotion, canned good, or such) and these will be donated to the homeless who come to the River of Life Mission. The gifts should be wrapped in colorful paper and marked female, male, or generic. Come join us for a time of fellowship as we remember our past events and plan for the future.

- ◆ Date: Monday, May 2, 2011
- ◆ Time: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
- ◆ Place: Stage Restaurant, 2nd floor of Inspiration building
- ◆ Parking: Enter building parking lot from Piikoi Street (one way mauka)
- ◆ Cost: Individual choices (everything on the menu is below \$20.00)

- ◆ RSVP: No later than Monday, April 25

Please call **Alice Fujiwara** at 626-4630 or **Joan Lee** at 261-2636.

**Marion**

## Call for Volunteers

It is that time of year again when the Hawaii Army Museum Society (HAMS) will conduct its annual golf tournament fund raiser. This year will mark the 30<sup>th</sup> year that the golf tournament has been in existence and is named after Aloha Chapter Life Member, Major General **Herbert E. Wolff** (Deceased).

Due to the renovation project occurring at the Leilehua Golf Course, this year's 1200 hours shotgun start tournament will be conducted on 25 May 2011 at the Klipper Golf Course on the Marine Corps Base, Kaneohe.

Volunteers are needed to help conduct the tournament. Please contact **Gordon Cho** at 484-2400 or [gcho440443@aol.com](mailto:gcho440443@aol.com) if you would like to be a volunteer. Lunch/Dinner and a thank you gift will be given to each volunteer. **Gordon**

### Luncheon continued from Front Page

author of the historical novel *Dead Downwind*, the saga of the astounding and virtually unknown exploit of **John Rodgers'** epic first flight to Hawaii in 1925, two years before **Charles Lindbergh** crossed the Atlantic. The success or failure of this endeavor would determine the future of U.S. naval aviation.

Dead downwind (often abbreviated as DDW) is a sailing and aeronautical term indicating a condition wherein the wind originates from directly behind a ship or airplane, dead meaning exact or precise.

In the midst of the Roaring Twenties, brilliant navy Rear Admiral **William Moffett** challenges Hawaii-based Commander **John Rodgers** with a death-defying mission—one designed to sway politicians and the public alike to the viability of naval aviation. **Rodgers** accepts and agrees to command three planes in a seemingly impossible mission: the first flight from California to Hawaii. This is a bold gamble that could make or break the navy's bid to control its own air power.

As the navy readies the bi-planes that will attempt the unprecedented crossing, there are tremendous engineering hurdles that must be cleared to get the mission off the ground—literally. During the months that follow, **Rodgers'** men implement some truly ingenious ideas that allow the program to advance.

And, while **Rodgers** prepares his crews for the mission, he is faced with problems of his own. Looming ominously is the prospect of a divorce that in that era could destroy his chances for advancement. Plus his deteriorating eyesight could spell the end of his flying career.

When the time for his unprecedented and very dangerous mission arrives, the nation is electrified. An anxious public holds its breath as the three planes queue for takeoff. Trouble ensues when one is unable to take off and another goes down after only 200 miles. The problems, mistakes, and tragedies that follow are true, but truly stranger than fiction!

**Bill Riddle** is a spellbinding storyteller and has amplified this fascinating, historically-based account with a phenomenal assortment of rare photographs and actual headlines. He has loved living in Hawaii for all of his adult life. He owns a company that provides tourist-related video services to hotels and airlines. An avid sailor, **Bill** has raced throughout Hawaii, California, Mexico, and across the Pacific. He enjoys all sports and can often be found on the golf links vainly trying to lower his handicap.

Send in your Reservation Form on Page 7 of this newsletter today to join us in this very enjoyable luncheon and lecture. 

## Government Shutdown?

Our frenzied government is perpetually trying to finalize a budget for this fiscal year, which began on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Their inability to resolve a cut in spending of mere billions in the 14+trillion dollar burgeoning deficit may precipitate a government shutdown on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. If this happens, should you happily loosen your grip on your wallet? What are the consequences of a government shutdown?

- ◆ Social Security: Checks for current eligibles will continue, but processing of new applications will likely be suspended.
- ◆ Military and federal civilian retired pay, survivor annuities: DFAS and the Office of Personnel Management won't give specific answers, but it is believed that checks to current beneficiaries will continue.
- ◆ VA disability compensation and survivor benefits: The VA isn't talking on the subject, but a 2008 Congressional Research Service report said during the previous 21-day shutdown in FY1996 "multiple services (for veterans) were curtailed, ranging from health and welfare to finance and travel."
- ◆ Government services: National parks may close, passport applications won't be processed, toxic waste cleanups will stop, and many federal contractors may not be paid, among other things. Note that after the 1996 shutdown, furloughed federal employees had their pay approved retroactively.

MOAA Legislative Update 3-25-2011 

## Aloha Chapter Party Bridge

Four tables of party bridge were played at the Fahrni Realty Classroom on Sunday afternoon, March 20<sup>th</sup>. This session was hosted by **Vernon** and **Marion Von** who provided an endless supply of refreshments while other participants brought many delicious snack items for everyone's enjoyment during play.

Fifteen regular players and one guest began play at about 1 pm, and after 5 rounds with different partners, the guest, **Hazel Theodore**, ended play with the highest score. Other high scorers recognized, in descending order, were **Les Ihara**, **Marion Von**, and **Dayle Carlson**, and the only slam bid and made was by **Dayle** and his partner-wife, **Bobbi**. The other participants were: **Mitzi Austin**, **Anna Blackwell**, **Sam Heard**, **Shirley Ihara**, **Gary & Bev Jensen**, **Lois Luehring**, **Dan Matthews**, **Coralie Vellis**, **Leney Vine**, and **Joan White**.



*Seated, left to right: Hazel Theodore, Les Ihara and Marion Von. Standing: Vernon Von, Bobbi Carlson, and Dayle Carlson.*

The next party bridge will be played on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, and will be hosted by **Lois Luehring**. Those who desire to play on that date and have not signed up yet are asked to contact **Lois** by telephone at 488-4458 or e-mail to: [davelue@earthlink.net](mailto:davelue@earthlink.net) by Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. **Shirley**

**Mark Webster**, **Ted Kitamura**, **Yoshi Nakamura** and **Joe Kuroda** with **Arlene Bali**, Marketing Manager, Kilauea Military Camp, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, on March 1. All of the men are holding the KMC cups given to them by **Arlene**. This was a Big Island trip down memory lane since **Mark** and **Ted** and **Joe** had lived in Papaikou in the 70's and 30's and 50's, respectively. **Yoshi** lived in the nearby town of Ninole.



*Mark Webster, our newsletter publisher, presenting an advance copy of the March Nā Leo O Nā Koa to Arlene Bali, Marketing Manager, KMC, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. KMC has been one of our loyal advertisers since the creation of our Aloha Chapter in 2000.*





*Norm Fujiwara*

## March Golf Report

After two months of record breaking participation by the Aloha Chapter golfers, it was sort of a let down to have a mere 22 players and, especially, having only two wahine golfers show up for our monthly golf outing on March 21<sup>st</sup>. However, it

did not dampen the spirit of the golfers who made it a wonderful day on the golf course by their eagerness and enthusiasm to tackle the Mamala Bay Golf Course. The weather cooperated in a way. Instead of it being a beautiful, sunny day, it was an overcast, threatening day, but, thankfully, there was nary a drop of rain.

The participants in today's event were as follows: leading our 6 groups of players were **Kelly Lau, Bob Kozuki, Ken Munechika,** and **Howard Okada**; they were followed by **Stan Furukawa**, a once-in-a-blue-moon player, **Marv Baum, John Holmes** and **Dick Towne**; in the third group were **Joe Kuroda, Curtis Lee, Larry Enomoto**, and another once-in-a-blue-moon player, **Ira Tagawa**; they were followed by **Vernon Von, John Kim, Ken Yamada**, and his guest **Akiko Noda**, one of the two wahine golfers; and, in the rear, were **Alice Fujiwara**, yours truly and our Canadian guest **Gordon Paulsen**.

Today's mega-jackpot game was our usual "Blind Partners" format. After selecting numbered poker chips to determine the partners and combining their net scores, in fourth place with a combined net score of 153 were **Stan Furukawa** and **Ira Tagawa**; followed by a score of 151 were the partners of **Howard Okada** and **Akiko Noda**; just four points behind the champions were **John Kim** and **Larry Enomoto** with a score of 143; and our grand champions, the winners of the mega-jackpot with a super score of 139 were **Kelly Lau** and **Bob Kozuki**. Congratulations to all the winning teams and a big mahalo to all the participants who contributed to the mega jackpot.

Now for our thought of the day: "Habit is like a soft bed—easy to get into and hard to get out of."

Our next golf outing will be on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Navy Marine Golf Course.

Mahalo to all the Aloha Chapter golfers and their guests who made this outing such a successful one.

**Norm** 



Photos: Courtesy U.S. Marine Corps—Sgt. Juan Yara, photographer

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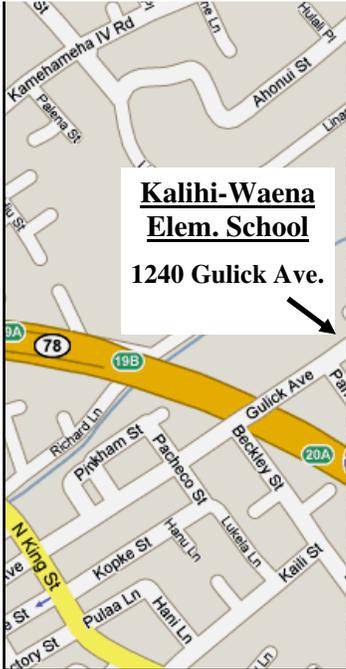
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**See you  
at the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole!**

**Look at the date above your name on the back page. If it doesn't say Life Member, that is your expiration date—when you need to renew your membership.**

**Map of the location of our annual Chicken Sale Fundraiser on May 1**



**Aloha Chapter, MOAA  
RESERVATION FORM  
1100, Thursday, 21 April 2011**

**Hickam Officers' Club  
Pasta Luncheon in the Green Room**

**Guest Speaker: Bill Riddle  
Author of the Historical Novel *Dead Downwind***

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

Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Transportation \_\_ (Check if needed)

Non-Refundable Luncheon Cost = \$18.00 per person = \_\_\_\_\_ x \$18.00 = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Price Includes Tip; No Payments at the O' Club; Only Prior Reservations Accepted

A Definite & Final Number of Expected Attendees Must Be Submitted to the O' Club

Please send in your reservation ASAP to be received NLT **Friday, April 15, 2011** to:

Checks Payable to: Aloha Chapter, MOAA  
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 19267  
Honolulu, HI 96817

Call Jane Kekoa at 381-6462 for more information, if needed

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

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

<http://www.moaa.org>

**Welcome to Our New Life Members**

**Joel J. Maimon, LTC, USA, Ret.**

**J. Mark Webster, LCDR, USNR, Ret.**

**Aloha Chapter, MOAA, Membership Application Form**

Enroll me as a Regular Member:  Each Year of Membership = \$15  Five Years = \$60. (One Year FREE!)

Enroll me as a Life Member:  Membership rates: Age 71 & older=\$85; 61-70=\$135; 51-60=\$185; 50& under=\$235

Enroll me as an Auxiliary Member:  (i.e., spouse of a U. S. military officer, surviving spouse of a deceased officer)

AUX:  Each year of membership = \$10. Life Membership = \$75

Name (Last First Middle Initial(s)) (PLEASE PRINT) DOB (MM/DD/YY)

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City, State Zip

Spouse's Name

Telephone Numbers (H=Home, B=Business, C=Cell) E-Mail

Applicant's Signature

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National MOAA Member:

MOAA No.: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Aloha Chapter Awards



- \* 2002 5-Star Chapter
- \* 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" Recruitment Campaign
- \* 2005 5-Star Chapter
- \* 2006 4-Star Chapter
- \* **2007 2nd Runner-Up Print Newsletter**
- \* **2007 5-Star Chapter**
- \* **2008 2nd Runner-Up Print Newsletter**

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