



Pau Hana Koa

- The Warriors' Newsletter -
Hawaii State Chapter
Military Officers Association of America



Vol. 24 No. 7

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

July 2009

Hawaii State Chapter Golden Anniversary Dinner July 23, 2009 at Hale Koa A Special Invitation is in the mail. Admiral Ryan is Keynote Speaker.



Vice Admiral Norbert R. Ryan Jr., USN-Ret., became President of the Military Officers Association of America in September '02. He is MOAA's ninth President in the organization's 80 years.

A native of Mountainhome, Pennsylvania, Admiral Ryan graduated from the United States Naval Academy in June 1967. He is also a graduate of George Washington University, with a Master of Science Degree in Personnel Administration, and the Senior Officials in National Security Program at Harvard

University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

He was designated a Naval Aviator in 1968, and his numerous operational and sea duty assignments included command at the Squadron and Wing level culminating with command of Patrol Wings, U.S. Pacific Fleet/Commander, Task Force Twelve (CTF-12).

In addition to his operational assignments, Vice Adm. Ryan has also served as Deputy Executive Assistant/Aide to the Chief of Naval Operations; Executive Assistant to the Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Chief of Legislative Affairs.

In November 1999, Admiral Ryan assumed the duties of Chief of Naval Personnel a position he held until his retirement in August 2002.

Among his awards and decorations Admiral Ryan is authorized to wear the Navy Distinguished Service Medal (w/1 Gold Star), Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (w/3 Gold Stars), and the Meritorious Service Medal (w/2 Gold Stars).

The Admiral and his wife Judy have two adult children and one grandchild, and reside in Fairfax Station, VA

Hawaii State Chapter in good hands.

The Chapter is 50 years old this year but I can only write about the recent history. I joined in 1999 shortly after Roberta and I returned to the Island. Prior to 1999, I know from conversations, that we had some great leaders, like Bill Nations and, I am sure, others before him. When I came aboard Lou Crompton had just taken over as Chapter President and was doing a great job in calming the waters.

In roughly the last ten years your Chapter has been led by four of the most unselfish leaders any organization could find. Admiral Bruce Smith has been Chairman for most of those years. His steady and guiding hand has led us through the first years of this new millennium. Supporting Bruce have been three Presidents who have gone well beyond the call of duty. John Peters, Jack Miller and John Harms have carried this Chapter, each with multiple terms as President, with great enthusiasm and in the most unselfish way. We are fortunate to have these leaders and please thank them for their service at the MOAA dinner on 23 July. (George Sullivan, Editor)

Coming Events July

13 Jul (Mon) PAC Mtg 1100 Sam Snead's

**20 Jul (Mon) EXCOM Mtg with VADM Ryan
0830 Hale Koa**

**23 Jul (Thu) Chapter 50th Anniversary Dinner
1730 Hale Koa**

Coming Events August

1 Aug (Sat) The Users Group (TUG) 1000 OVC

21 Aug (Fri) EXCOM Mtg 1115 MCBH O'Club

**23 Aug (Sun) Annual Picnic 1200 Bellow AFS
Pavilion 5A**



The President's Perspective – The Big Event

by Commander John L. Miller USN (Ret.)

The check is in the mail, right? I hope by now you have signed up for our Golden Anniversary Banquet on July 23rd and mailed to our Program Chair – Jim Gebhard – your check. In July 1959, Colonel Harold K. Keeley, USAF formed the Hawaii State Chapter of TROA and we are still going strong as an affiliate of MOAA. The Golden Anniversary is for fifty years of the Hawaii State Chapter serving the members, the National TROA/MOAA organization and our country. To celebrate the event, a live wire party is promised with two bands, champagne toasts, and a key note address by our National President, Admiral Ryan, and more. You may get one more reminder invitation in the mail with a return RSVP envelope. Take a minute fill it out and join in the fun.

Admiral Ryan has personally lobbied very hard to gain and protect benefits for all of the military family. Tricare-for-Life is the one program that has saved my family many thousands of dollars and contrary to the plethora of e-mails flying about – Tricare-for-Life is in the Congressional budget for fiscal year 2010 without additional payments. Next year remains to be seen but you can be assured that Admiral Ryan and the Washington Military Coalition of Veterans organizations will be working hard to preserve the program. At the Anniversary banquet in the Waikiki Ballroom, Hale Koa Hotel, Admiral and Mrs. Ryan will be the greeters. So on arrival, I hope you will shake his hand and say thanks for the MOAA support to the Military families

The 2009 High School Junior ROTC awards under the supervision of Ralph Hiatt, were once again well supported with all MOAA medals and scholarship checks distributed. LCDR Hank Van Oss has volunteered the JROTC Color Guard from Kalaheo High School to perform at our Golden Anniversary banquet. So this is one more reason to attend and see this sharp unit in action. All contributors to the Chapter ROTC Scholarship program are warmly thanked for their generosity. You can be very proud of the Hawaii JROTC and ROTC Cadets who are all on their way to be contributing, law-abiding, patriotic Americans. Well done to the dedicated Cadre staff members that inspire the Cadets and run the program.

Happy Fourth of July to all and God Bless America!

Jack



2009 CHAPTER DONATIONS

AS OF JULY 09 - GOAL IS \$6000 - Received to date \$ 3229

PLATINUM CONTRIBUTORS (\$500 or MORE)

Hank Heyenga

GOLD CONTRIBUTORS (\$100 TO \$499)

R.L. and Kiyoko Vonier, Richard and Beverly Lynn Meiers, Ralph and Clara Cook, Patricia Kubach, E. Grant Story and Allyn Thompson, Paul Schmitz, Joseph Comstock Jr, Bruce and Carolyn Smith, Charles Kimak, Ralph Hiatt, Jack and Carita Miller, Nancy Strabley, John and Joan Peters, Virginia Frizelle, Marian Williams

SILVER CONTRIBUTORS (\$50 TO \$99)

Tom Smyth, Thomas J. Wells, Lynn Alward-Bingman, Clint Churchill, Ellen McGarry, Helen Brassier, Arnold and Beverly Drill, Lisa K Fry

BRONZE CONTRIBUTORS (\$25 TO \$49)

Regina Foster, Gerda Lippincott, Jim and Muff Drorbaugh, Bill and Verne Moore

If you donated in any of these categories and your name is not present call me, John Harms at 261-2282

-- CHAPTER SOCIAL EVENTS --

--THIS MONTH--

JULY 23 @1730

Hawaii State Chapter Golden Anniversary Dinner
Hale Koa

AUGUST 23 @1200

ANNUAL MOAA PICNIC - BELLOWS BEACH

SEPTEMBER 24 @ 1130

Bill Riddle author of "Dead Downwind".

A great historic novel of the first attempt at a non-stop flight from San Francisco to Hawaii by the Navy.

Oahu Veterans Center

NOVEMBER 21 @1030

Annual Meeting at Oahu Veterans Center

DECEMBER 9 @1730

Annual Christmas Dinner
Hale Koa

Thinning of the Ranks

CDR Davidson Luehring,USN (Ret.) died 18 June; survived by his wife Lois. Arrangements pending.

Binnacle List

Beryl Torraca spouse of Colonel Louis Torraca USAF (Ret)

Birnie Schneiderman, spouse of CDR Suzanne Schneiderman USN (Ret), recovering from surgery at home.

Lois Seale, spouse of LTC Thomas Seale, recovering from surgery at home.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair, RADM C. Bruce Smith, USN (Ret), 2008-2010

CAPT John Peters, USN (Ret), 2008-2010

Col Jim Gebhard, USAF (Ret) 2008-2010

Helen Peil Baker, 2007-2009

LtCol Louis Crompton, USAF (Ret), 2007-2009

CAPT George Sullivan, USN (Ret) 2007-2009

COL Ralph Hiatt, USA (Ret), 2009-2011

LCDR Tom Marzec, USN (Ret), 2009-2011

Trish Kubach, 2009-2011

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Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily Hawaii State Chapter policy.

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MOAA's Scholarship Program by Col. Ralph Hiatt USA (Ret.)

MOAA 2008 JROTC Scholarship Awards

Recipient	School	College Option
Kanoe Padeken	Kahuku	U. Oregon
Kaleo Anderson	St. Louis	Chaminade
Jonathan A. Hinderer	Aiea	U. Hawaii
Janet Chou	Baldwin	U. Hawaii
Johnathan Marks	Radford	Texas A&M
Shalynn Ho	Punahou	Several Options
Garrick J. Militante	Nanakuli	U. Hawaii
Zachary Wachter	Kailua	N. New Mexico
Hossana Terrado	Farrington	Several Options
Sheryl Visitacion	Waimea	U. Hawaii

Scholarships Kick Start College

Again in 2009, MOAA-Hawaii Chapter members recognized the leadership and scholastic achievements of ten Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) high school students by awarding them each \$500 scholarships. MOAA scholarships recognize the potential of Hawaii's finest students, assisting them in their future education endeavors. The awardees mean grade point average was 3.6 a solid "A" average, while all demonstrated outstanding leadership in their JROTC program, school activities and the community assistance events. The \$5000 membership contributions permit MOAA to acknowledge and promote the tremendous leadership potential and patriotism demonstrated by Hawaii's young men and women -- as they mature and develop into tomorrows leaders serving their community, state and country. For many students the MOAA scholarship is the financial assistance they need to get into the college of their choice.

To date 60 scholarships totaling nearly \$50,000 have been earned by Hawai'i high school seniors. Many enter into the collegiate senior ROTC programs earning officer commissions. Thankful cadets have expressed their written gratitude to our chapter for providing these scholarship awards. Several members also volunteer to attend the award ceremonies to represent the Chapter as the scholarships and MOAA leadership awards are presented. Presenting members usually are impressed at the organization and excitement expressed by the JROTC cadets at these you ceremonies. A special Mahalo to all the Chapter contributors for their generous and continuous support.



Cadet Ho – Punahou School



Cadet Visitacion – Waimea High



Cadet Militante – Nanakuli High



Cadet Padeken –Kahuku High



Auxiliary Corner by Anna Blackwell

We wrote and (some of) you answered!

The responses to the letter of May 1, encouraging Auxiliary members to come and enjoy our 50th Anniversary celebration on July 23, were varied – and interesting! Some replied directly; answers ranged from “I’m (or “Mom’s”) really out of it any more” to “Yes! save me a seat at the Auxiliary table” to “I want to sit with real people, not just women!” to “How can I help in the meantime?” We’re working on the transportation issues for those who don’t drive at night any more, or who live far, far out of town.

It’s obvious, however, that there’s an untapped well of enthusiasm and desire to remain a part of the military community. Some of us have lived in Hawai`i for decades (even a few, like me, were born here!) and have developed our own networks of support and activity in the local community. Others are relatively new. But most of us want to continue to fulfill the roles we learned to love as the wives, and then the widows, of serving officers.

The challenge of finding something meaningful to do as the “Hawaii Chapter Auxiliary” – something beyond being just another social lunch club – is one that I’m working hard on. The Personal Affairs and Community Affairs Committees are offering guidance and assistance. The Executive Committee is keeping a brotherly eye on my endeavors. I hope that by the annual picnic in August – scheduled for the 23rd, so mark your calendars! – and maybe even by the Anniversary Celebration, I’ll have something exciting to report. Stay tuned!

Meanwhile: have you sent in your dinner reservation yet? *Aloha - Anna*

“DAMN THE TORPEDOES, FULL SPEED AHEAD”

Do you know where this famous battle cry came from?

Lt. Bill Keeney, USN (former) – “The Intercom” Cape Canaveral Chapter

This famous battle cry has been echoed over the years under and over many different circumstances - some heroic others seemingly fool hardy, but all came from the same incident.

This declaration is very close to the statement made by Admiral Farragut during the Civil War when he was sailing his fleet into Mobile (Ala.) Bay on the morning of August 5, 1864. Mobile Bay was the Confederacy’s only remaining port into the sea after the capture by Federal forces of New Orleans. Admiral Farragut’s attack was a coordinated thrust against the Confederacy to coincide with General Sherman’s advance to Atlanta, Georgia. Additionally the Confederates had just completed and launched their new iron clad, CSS Tennessee, at Mobile.

The only deep water channel into the Bay ran close to the Confederate’s Fort Morgan. Farragut arranged his wooden battleships in-line led by the iron clad USS Tecumseh, then followed by wooden steamers USS Brooklyn, USS Octorara, and the USS Hartford, Admiral Farragut’s Flag Ship, followed by 10 additional battleships. As the Union column approached, Fort Morgan opened fire at extreme range and the leading ships gave a prompt reply.

As the Union ships neared the narrow deep water passage under Fort Morgan, the iron clad CSS Tennessee moved out into the bay and across the path of the Union ships, taking up a ramming position. The lead Union ship, Tecumseh turned port and entered the Confederate’s torpedo or mine field. No one to this day knows why Commander Craven, the Captain of the Tecumseh turned to port past the buoy marking the torpedo/mine field. It could be guessed his full attention must have been riveted on the big iron clad CSS Tennessee approaching in front of him. Shortly after entering the torpedo/mine field a torpedo exploded under her turret number 1 and the Tecumseh settled to the bottom in a matter of seconds with only one man surviving.

Damn the torpedoes...continued on page 7



TUG by Colonel Lou Torraca USAF (Ret.)



Seven come eleven...if you live in Hawaii and has it got to do with technology! Well, if you huge number of Microsoft employees, you most here! Without getting into all the pros and

don't know what that means...wow! So, what are Bill Gates, Steve Ballmer or any of the know just what it means...Windows 7 is acons of Vista, the fact is Windows 7 will be soft making it official. **My online column**

which will be posted on 1 July has an extensive look at this latest operating system you won't want to miss. To read the entire story, and view a complete set of screenshots, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/363qew>

Before I go any further, let me make sure any of you hard-core computer users who like to be in on the cutting edge know you can download and install Windows 7 RC1 and it will run until next July before you have to buy a copy. That's a pretty good deal considering most of the reviews I have read, coupled with my own opinion, is that RC1 is so close to the version that will ship to manufacturers very, very soon that you would be hard pressed to tell the difference. So jump on the bandwagon and download your copy along with all the instructions you'll need at: <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windows-7/download.aspx>

If you have a spare PC you can try it on that one, or, you can go for a dual boot installation so you can run XP or Vista and WIN7 on the same PC. Lots of places out there with info on how to install a dual-boot setup.

Another interesting development surfaced while I was writing this (the week of June 8th) which will be good news to those reading this in July and interested in a new PC.

A Best Buy memo was leaked to [Engadget](#). The company note intended for employees reveals that the Technology Guarantee, that basically protects those consumers buying Vista-based systems in the months leading up to the Windows 7 release date, is due to begin on June 26.

It also reveals that on that same date, June 26, a pre-sale of Windows 7 upgrades will occur. Windows 7 Home Premium will cost \$49.99 and Windows 7 Professional will cost \$99.99. Retailers other than Best Buy will also be offering the pre-sale, which will last for 16 days until July 11. These prices are extremely low so probably only apply to the promotion rather than the final retail price. But, there's no harm in dreaming. The best line of the memo explains that "This new operating system isn't just a 'Vista that works.'" No, it's not just that but the fact it's being described as such by a computer retailer is quite telling.

Some even more interesting reading is on 2 Microsoft blogs, [Brandon LeBlanc at the Windows 7 Team Blog](#) says that the **Release to Manufacturers (RTM) will be in 3 or so months -**

"If the telemetry we receive from the Windows 7 RC meets our expectations in terms of quality, then we expect to hit RTM in 3 months or so."

[Steven Sinfosky at the Engineering Windows 7 Blog](#) writes -

"Delivering the highest quality Windows 7 is the most important criteria for us at this point—quality in every dimension. The RTM process is designed to be deliberate and maintain the overall engineering integrity of the system. Many are pushing us to release the product sooner rather than later, but our focus remains on a high quality release. Ultimately our partners will determine when their PCs are available in market. If the feedback and telemetry on Windows 7 match our expectations then we will enter the final phases of the RTM process in about 3 months. If we are successful in that, then we tracking to our shared goal of having PCs with Windows 7 available this Holiday season."

Come see us at one of our monthly meetings; visit www.the-tug.org for details and driving instructions. *Aloha, Lou*

Editor's notes.

I need to apologize for not recognizing the many photographers who took pictures for the June 2009 Pau Hana Koa. Mark Webster, the editor of the Aloha Chapter's newsletter, *Na Leo o No Koa*, was kind enough to send me the photo of Shirley Cavanaugh presenting the lei for the Hawaii State Chapter at the Hawaii State Cemetery on Memorial Day.

Anna Blackwell took pictures at the Personal Affairs Committee meeting at Hawaii Kai Ret. Comm.

Carita Miler and John Harms took pictures at JROTC presentations and at MOAA's meeting at the Oahu Veterans Center. I thank them for their input and all others who contribute to our PHK. George Sullivan

Damn the torpedoes...continued from page 5.

The Captain of the next ship in-line, the USS Brooklyn, received a report of torpedoes/mines under his ship and ordered his ship and the next ship in-line the USS Octorara to reverse engines. Admiral Farragut, who had stationed himself in the upper rigging of his ship, ordered the other ships in-line to turn port around the lead ships. As he passed the USS Brooklyn, her Captain messaged Admiral Farragut warning him about the torpedoes/mines. **“Damn the torpedoes”** shouted from his perch in the rigging, **“Four bells! Captain Drayton, go ahead Jouett, full speed ahead”**. The Lord of the sea was with the good Admiral, as he was to get his ships over the torpedo/mine field with no further loss.

He entered Mobile Bay and later that morning his squadron engaged and captured the CSS Tennessee. The Union Navy now held Mobile and within a few weeks all the forts at the entrance of the bay were in Union hands. That is where the, **“Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead”** originated from Admiral Farragut, shouting his determination and leadership from his position in the rigging of the USS Hartford, as he fought his way into Mobile Bay. Since then, the expression is most associated with “I’m determined to go ahead and succeed”, but occasionally it has been used as “Damn the consequences, I am right go forward” which is not a characteristic of Admiral Farragut’s leadership that fateful day.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND!!!

EVENT: HAWAII STATE CHAPTER

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

WHEN: JULY 23rd 2009 – DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: WAIKIKI BALLROOM, HALE KOA HOTEL

CHIEF GUEST: ADMIRAL NORBERT RYAN, PRESIDENT MOAA

WHAT – A SIT DOWN CANDLELIGHT DINNER

CELEBRATION WITH CHAMPAGNE TOASTS

MUSIC AND DANCING

COST INCLUDING GRATUITY AND TAX – \$40.00

RSVP NLT July 16th

DRESS – ALOHA ATTIRE

Any questions??? Auxiliary Members for seating contact Anna Blackwell 739-9164/E-mail: annagram2@aol.com

Program Event Chair – Jim Gebhard, 262-1165/E-mail: gebhardjim@aol.com

RESERVATION FORM:

NAME AND GUEST NAME (S) _____

FILET MIGNON _____ VEGETARIAN _____

DINNER AMOUNT AT \$40.00 EACH _____

CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP DONATION _____

TOTAL _____

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