



YOUR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
by COL John Harms, USMC (Retired), Acting Chapter President

“Potpourri”

Jack Miller will be on the mainland until the beginning of October, so another “musing” from me. As the title implies, no central theme to this tome, as last month’s “Please Vote”, just some general information and observations. As we all know the Get out and Vote issue is still on the front burner. As you saw in some of the State voting results, the margins between winners and losers were sometimes very slim, therefore the individual vote DID count more than we sometimes think. I view the unique and exceptional opportunity to vote in our Country as being a real duty, for we cannot complain about “da Government” if we did not participate in the process to elect the same. Enough said.

As a result of your expressed desires we will now be publishing 12 issues of our Pau Hana Koa (PHK) monthly newsletter. The 10-issue format ended as of this year. But, as in any volunteer organization newsletter we need input from YOU! To assist we have established a “Letter to the Editor” section where you can voice your opinions and concerns. Please send these to me (landBHarms@aol.com) or to our Editor, Chaplain Ron Bezanson (bezansonRS01@aol.com), preferably in MS Word via email. But snail mail is fine; we will scan in your letter for our computer format. Many of you have had great experiences over your military careers. Please share them with us by writing an article for our PHK.

We also need two Chapter officers for the 2005 year. Bob Fowler is thinking seriously of becoming our next 1st Vice President, but a Secretary is still needed. A volunteer organization does not work very well without “volunteers”.

Last comment for this month is please plan on coming to our 45th Chapter Anniversary Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 13 at the Marine Corps Base, Kaneohe Officers Club. Judith Breitwieser is putting together a fine program, to include a talk by Jerry Coffee, if his busy election schedule permits.

May you all have fair winds, following seas and God’s blessing as we approach the holiday seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas.

OKTOBERFEST

1800 Sunday, 3 OCTOBER 2004

HALE KOA HOTEL

JUDITH BREITWIESER HAS ONLY 50 TICKETS. RESERVE NOW!!

Wear your Dirndl and Lederhosen and come and let’s do a
‘PROSIT ZU DER GEMUTLICHKEIT’

Admission price is \$6.00. Menu A la Carte. Food and drink paid separately.

Send your check to Judith and she will provide the tickets. Tel: 262-7953

Judith Breitwieser

1403 Onion Street

Kailua, HI 96734

PLEASE CLIP AND MAIL IN YOUR RSVP

I (we) will see you there!! Guests are most welcome. Tickets \$6.00 each.

Checks made payable to **Hawaii Chapter MOAA**

\$6.00 X () = \$ _____ Donation: ROTC/JROTC Programs & Scholarship \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Names: _____

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A REMINDER

Names and addresses listed in our Chapter Directory are NOT to be used as mailing lists for political or other non-chapter purposes.

BINNACLE LIST

LTC Bill McGarry, AUS (Ret) returned home at the end of August where he continues his rehabilitation under the watchful care of his beautiful nurse Ellen and the TAMC doctors and therapists.

PACIFIC AVIATION MUSEUM

A distinguished group has embarked on a project to establish a Pacific Aviation Museum (PAM), a military aviation museum to be located at the site of the original Ford Island Air Station, Luke Field. The first phase of the project will cost about \$6 million. Federal and State of Hawaii funds have been appropriated. It is anticipated that the balance of the funds needed will come from corporations, foundations, veteran groups, state campaigns and direct-mail appeals.

Please save the date, Thursday, December 2nd, 2004 from 5:30 pm to 10:00 pm at Hickam AFB Officers Club for the PAM Fourth Annual Benefit Dinner featuring General Chuck Yeager as Keynote Speaker.

For more info visit: www.PacificAviationMuseum.org.
 Contacts are: PAM, 90 Nakolo Pl., Suite 24, Honolulu 96819; phone 808-836-7747; fax 808-836-1058; or

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OUR MILITARY WIVES (Continued)

what love truly is. Is there truly a difference? I think there is. You have to decide for yourself.

Other spouses get married and look forward to building equity in a home and putting down family roots. Military spouses get married and know they'll live in base housing or rent, and their roots must be short so they can be transplanted frequently.

Other spouses decorate a home with flair and personality that will last a lifetime. Military spouses decorate a home with flare tempered with the knowledge that no two base houses have the same size windows or same size rooms. Curtains have to be flexible and multiple sets are a plus. Furniture must fit like puzzle pieces.

Other spouses have living rooms that are immaculate and seldom used. Military spouses have immaculate living room/dining room combos. The coffee table got a scratch or two moving from Germany, but it still looks pretty good.

Other spouses say good-bye to their spouse for a business trip and know they won't see them for a week. They are lonely, but can survive. Military spouses say good-bye to their deploying spouse and know they won't see them for months, or for a remote, a year. They are lonely, but will survive.

Other spouses, when a washer hose blows off, call Maytag and then write a check out for having the hose reconnected. Military spouses will cut the water off and fix it themselves.

Other spouses get used to saying "hello" to friends they see all the time. Military spouses get used to saying "good-bye" to friends made the last two years. Other spouses worry about whether their child will be class president next year. Military spouses worry about whether their child will be accepted in yet another school next year and whether that school will be the worst in the city...again.

Other spouses can count on spouse participation in special events...birthdays, anniversaries, concerts, football games, graduation, and even the birth of a child. Military spouses only count on each other; because they realize that the flag has to come first if freedom is to survive. It has to be that way.

Other spouses put up yellow ribbons when the troops are imperiled across the globe and take them down when the troops come home. Military spouses wear yellow ribbons around their hearts and they never go away.

Other spouses worry about being late for mom's Thanksgiving dinner. Military spouses worry about getting back from Japan in time for dad's funeral.

And other spouses are touched by the television program showing an elderly lady putting a card down in front of a long, black wall that has names on it. The card simply says, "Happy Birthday, Sweetheart. You would have been sixty today." A military spouse is the lady with the card, and the wall is the Vietnam Memorial.

I would never say military spouses are better than other spouses are. But I will say there is a difference. And I will say that our country asks more of military spouse than is asked of other spouses. And I will say, without hesitation, that military spouses pay just as high a price for freedom as do their active duty husbands and wives. Perhaps the price they pay is even higher. Dying in service to our country isn't near as hard as loving someone who has died in service to our country, and having to live without them.

God bless our military spouses for all they freely give. And God bless America.

Legislative Affairs Veterans Affairs (LAVA)
Captain George E. Sullivan, USN (Retired)



Survivor Benefit Plan

The Conference Committee for the FY 2005 National Defense Authorization Bill which will decide the fate of the Survivor Benefit Plan has yet to convene. There is still time to contact our Congressional Delegation and press for the elimination of the "widow tax". Please refer to the September issue of the Pau Hana Koa for a sample letter to Senator Akaka who is a member of the Conference Committee. If you need any additional help in contacting our Senators or Representatives, please feel free to call upon any Hawaii Chapter Officer or Director. Telephone numbers and E-mail addresses are in this issue.

"Space A" Travel for Military Families Continues

The one-year test to expand space-available or "Space A" travel privileges to family members of active-duty and retired personnel traveling within the Continental United States has been extended. Under the Space-A test phase, the family members of active-duty and retired military personnel are able to travel aboard military flights when accompanied by their sponsors. The policy was established in December 2000 as quality-of-life privilege for military service people and their families. To register for space-available travel, active-duty sponsors must be on leave or a pass and remain in the status through the entire travel period. Additional Space-A travel and signup information, passenger terminals and phone numbers are available through <http://public.amc.af.mil/SPACEA/spacea.htm>.

2005 COLA

COLA as we all know is tied to any adjustment to Social Security benefits. The Bureau of Labor Statistics recently announced that the monthly Consumer Price Index dropped about 0.2%. The size of the 2005 COLA now depends on what the CPI will do in September and October. Best guess is that the COLA will wind up at 2.6% or 2.7%. COLA increases which will appear in January '05 payments.

Veteran Military Records

"The National Personnel Records Center has recently streamlined the process for requesting veteran military records. Only the veteran or next of kin can make the request. Others might be approved but must submit a form SF-180 first. Download forms at <http://vetrecs.archives.gov>. The form for requesting records can be completed on-line but a verification must be printed, signed, and faxed or sent by postal mail to St. Louis. Receipt of the request will be acknowledged immediately by E-Mail but the request won't be serviced for about 25 weeks because the Center is overloaded with over 20,000 requests a week."
Submitted by Jerry Lesperance

World War II Pacific Theatre Cruise

After one of our long time chapter members, Jean Clarey, took this cruise (in reverse) in the summer of 2004, and enjoyed it immensely, she asked that our members be informed of the World War II Pacific Theatre Cruise coming up next year aboard the Pacific Princess. The itinerary: Honolulu; Midway Is.; Majuro, Marshall Is.; Guadalcanal, Solomon Is.; Rabaul, Papua/New Guinea; Saipan, Marianas Is.; Iwo Jima Scenic Cruising (no shore visit); Okinawa and Nagasaki, Japan; and Beijing, China. The ship departs Honolulu May 29 and the cruise completes June 24, 2005.
This is not an advertisement nor an endorsement by MOAA.



“TAPS”

A Part of Our History

by

Colonel John Harms, USMC (Ret.)



Over the years various stories on the origin of TAPS have been written. Only two things are constant; first that it was written during the US Civil War, and second, it was first played on a bugle by the Federal troops. It was such an inspiration that the tune was soon picked up and played by the Confederate troops. The following is the most prevalent story. We in the United States have all heard the haunting song “Taps”. It is a song that gives us a lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. Here is the story about its humble beginnings.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harris’s Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back into Union lines for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his lines. When the Captain finally reached his own position, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock.

In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army. The following morning the heartbroken father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army Band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate, but out of respect for the father they provided him one musician, a bugler.

The Captain asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth’s uniform. This was granted. The haunting melody, we now know as “Taps”, used with US Military forces through out the years and at military funerals was born. The words are ingrained in all US military and their families: Day is done – Gone the sun – From the lakes – From the hills – From the sky – All is well – Safely rest – God is nigh. Many do not realize there are two additional verses: Fading light – Dims the sight – And a star – Gems the sky – Gleaming bright – From afar – Drawing nigh – Falls the night; Thanks and praise – For our days – Neath the sun – Neath the stars – Neath the sky – As we go – This we know – God is nigh.

Now you know ALL the verses to this memorable tune that has become such a significant part in all our lives.



TUG by Col Lou Torraca, USAF (Retired)



This month my topic is one of the most important aspects of computing...passwords.

Why do you need a password?

Here is what the U. S. Government Computer Emergency Readiness Team says:

“Think about the number of PIN numbers, passwords, or passphrases you use every day: getting money from the ATM or using your debit card in a store, logging on to your computer or email, signing in to an online bank account or shopping cart...the list seems to just keep getting longer. Keeping track of all of the number, letter, and word combinations may be frustrating at times, and maybe you've wondered if all of the fuss is worth it. After all, what attacker cares about your personal email account, right? Or why would someone bother with your practically empty bank account when there are others with much more money? Often, an attack is not specifically about your account but about using the access to your information to launch a larger attack. And while having someone gain access to your personal email might not seem like much more than an inconvenience and threat to your privacy, think of the implications of an attacker gaining access to your social security number or your medical records.

One of the best ways to protect information or physical property is to ensure that only authorized people have access to it. Verifying that someone is the person they claim to be is the next step, and this authentication process is even more important, and more difficult, in the cyber world. Passwords are the most common means of authentication, but if you don't choose good passwords or keep them confidential, they're almost as ineffective as not having any password at all. Many systems and services have been successfully broken into due to the use of insecure and inadequate passwords, and some viruses and worms have exploited systems by guessing weak passwords.”

To read the whole article, visit: <http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/tips/ST04-002.html>

If you have a lot of sites that require passwords, it's tempting to use the same, simple password that is easy for a hacker to crack. I bet some of you are using birthdays, pet names or even one of your own names or SSNs!

Well, there is some good news...APC has a super solution for us that solves the problem.



It's called Biopod. Here is what it looks like:

It's about the size of a mini-mouse for your laptop. It's really easy to install and to use. What it does is make an image of your fingerprint...you can pick any finger or even use a different one for each site you use a password for! It also allows 20 different users to use the same computer with their own fingerprint. I am using my left hand as I have it on the left of my keyboard so I can still use my mouse with my right hand. As I said, installation was quick and easy and after a reboot you “register” your fingerprint(s). You can then set it up to require your fingerprint to log onto your computer. You do this for any other users for the same computer. Then, you're ready to setup all the accounts and sites you use to logon simply by placing your finger on the Biopod. Of course, the first thing you need to do is cleanup your password act by using ones that are hard to crack! To help with this task, you can use free software available at: <http://itsfree4u.com/password.shtml>

There are also programs to store and encrypt your passwords if you so desire.

Once you do this, you can open each site or file or account and use the Bipod program to remember the login and password so all you need to open it is your fingerprint! What could be easier.

The MSRP for the Bipod is \$49.99, but as always, a check of the internet will come up with savings in price. Regardless of what you pay, it's a really worthwhile investment.

BTW, it works on Windows 2000, ME, 98 and XP.

To learn more about this little gem, visit: <http://www.apcc.com/products/family/index.cfm?id=246&ISOCountryCode=ww>

Come see us at one of our upcoming meetings. Visit www.the_tug_homestead.com for schedules and driving directions.

That's it for this month. Until next time, happy computing.

Lou

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Letter Received from the WAR ZONE

Dear Mrs. Woltmon —

The Bibles that you and Roxanna sent to the 25th Field Artillery Detachment were such a nice gesture. In our time here people have been so supportive. I think the prayers from home have done a lot to keep us safe.

I hope you are doing well. Please greet everyone at the MOAA for us. Enjoy the rest of the summer. See you soon.

Adam

Adam Wojcik, CPT, USA
 25th FAD, 2/11 FA
 2 BCT, 25th ID (L)
 APO AE 09347-9998

HELP NEEDED

The Hickam AFB Retired Activities Office (RAO) has closed down because there are no volunteers to man it. Retired USAF volunteers are urgently needed. Contact Major Herring at 440-8609 for more information.

COMING EVENTS

45th Chapter Anniversary Birthday Bash
 Annual Meeting
 13 November, 1130, MCBH O'Club
 Buffet Lunch with Special Guest Speaker
 Former POW CAPT Gerry Coffee, USN (Ret)

Hawaii Chapter Annual XMAS Party
 7 December, Hale Koa Hotel
 ++ A great dinner with Live Entertainment ++
The Famous Extraordinary Pianist, Comedian
RON MIYASHIRO
 See the November PHK for details.

Hawaii Chapter, MOAA
P.O. Box 1185
Kailua, Hawaii 96734-1185



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MOAA Recognizes Hawaii Chapter
with its
Four-Star Excellence Award—2003

ATTENTION:

**Oktoberfest @ Hale Koa
Sunday, 3 October, 1800
Annual Meeting, at MCBH O'Club
13 November, 1130**

E-MAIL :
info@moaa-hawaii.org

**HAWAII CHAPTER of the MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
New Membership Application and/or Current Member Dues Payment**

Name: _____ Male Female
Last First MI

New Member Application **Currently a Regular Member** **Currently an Auxiliary Member**

New members: Complete next items and Regular or Auxiliary Member section. Enter remittance at bottom.

Current members: Complete any items that have changed and enter your remittance amount at bottom of form.

Address: _____ Email: _____

Date of birth: _____ National MOAA membership No. _____ SSN ____ / ____ / ____

Regular Members: Active duty, retired, or former military officers are eligible for regular membership.
Service _____ Rank _____ Active Duty Retired Reserve National Guard Former Officer
Dues: \$15 per year; 5 years for \$60. Life membership: Age 50 and under, \$300; 51-60 \$250; 61-70 \$200; 71-89 \$100; 90 and older is free.

Auxiliary Members: Widows or widowers are eligible for membership whose spouses were regular members or were eligible for regular membership. Rank of spouse: _____ Service of spouse: _____
Dues: \$10 per year; 5 years for \$40; Life membership: Age 50 and under, \$150; 51-60 \$125; 61-70 \$100; 71-89 \$50; 90 and older is free.

Home Phone: _____ Office Phone: _____ Fax _____

If married, spouse's first name: _____ Last name, if different than yours: _____

Indicate interest in any of the following Chapter activities or Committees:

Personal Affairs Legislative Affairs/Veterans Affairs Public Affairs Program/Social Newsletter Membership Finance
ROTC Scholarship & Awards Fund Raising Community Service TUG(Computers) Party Bridge Golf Tennis

Dues Enclosed \$ _____ Optional Donation \$ _____ for Ben Porter Leadership Award, scholarships, USO, etc.

Total Remittance: \$ _____ Make check to Hawaii Chapter MOAA, PO Box 1185, Kailua HI 96734-1185