

20100109 Retiree News

Retiree News has been out of circulation for a while. My four year old desktop died in November, and I was faced with some decisions; PC or Mac, desktop or laptop were some major decisions. Making a long story short, I now own a new Dell laptop. (Macs were a little too pricey.) Delivery time for a special order laptop was about five weeks – never order a computer around Christmas time. Reloading data and setting up distribution lists were another humbug. Anyway, it's working and here's the latest issue.

A change - **Retiree News** will now be sent out as a PDF file. This will allow some other things to occur like occasional photos.

There must have been another glitch prior to my computer dying. From some feedback received, the 20091031 Halloween issue did not get out to everyone. In the next few days, I will send out the Halloween issue again – apologies to those who received it the first time around.

1. **The Promise.** **Retiree News** will contain information about benefits, National Guard events, and news about current, former, and retired members. There will be no chain e-mail, cute pictures, or sales pitches. Publication of **Retiree News** is on a random schedule – as topics come up and time permits. If you change your mind about receiving issues of **Retiree News**, send an e-mail at retireenews@hawaiiintel.net and you will be off the **Retiree News** mailing list.

2. **Business.**

- **The New 154th Wing Commander.** The Adjutant General, **MG Robert G.F. Lee** announced that **Brig Gen Joseph Kim** was selected as the new 154th Wing commander. The announcement came on January 8, 2010 at Brig Gen Kim's pinning ceremony at Governor Linda Lingle's office. The ceremony had an overflow crowd including his parents who flew in for the ceremony. Congratulations to the new general and his appointment!

- **TRICARE Makes H1N1 Immunizations Easy for Beneficiaries.** The following article is a TRICARE press release, #09-66 dated October 30, 2009

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – Immunizations against the H1N1 virus will soon be available, and people are eager to take precautions. TRICARE Prime, Standard and Extra beneficiaries can get their shots from network and non-network providers without paying a deductible or making a co-payment. A temporary waiver allows non-active duty TRICARE Prime enrollees to get the H1N1 immunization from non-network providers without a referral or authorization, eliminating point-of-service charges. Prime enrollees will not be charged a co-payment or cost share.

Active duty service members should follow the guidance of their respective services.

"Preventive medicine is a very important part of TRICARE's goal of keeping service members, retirees and families healthy," said Rear Adm. Christine Hunter, deputy director of the TRICARE Management Activity. "To that end, we make getting vaccinated as convenient and affordable as possible. Beneficiaries should talk to their primary care manager if they have any questions about the H1N1 vaccine or other vaccines."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the vaccine for the seasonal flu is not expected to protect against H1N1; immunization for the 2009 H1N1 strain is therefore recommended. Both vaccines can be administered on the same day.

CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that everyone get the H1N1 vaccine, but for certain groups, vaccination is more critical. These include:

- Pregnant women
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
- Everyone between the ages of 6 months and 24 years
- People ages 25 through 64 with chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems
- Older people with diabetes, cardiovascular disease, asthma or HIV.

For more information on H1N1 and other seasonal flu conditions, beneficiaries should contact their primary care manager or visit the TRICARE Web site at <http://tricare.mil/flu>, or go to the Department of Defense Pandemic Influenza Watchboard at <http://fhp.osd.mil/aiWatchboard/index.jsp>.

• Appeals judges deny request for locality pay. On November 12, 2009, an appeals court upheld a lower court's ruling that federal employees outside the contiguous United States are not entitled to locality pay. Only retired Federal employees who were employed after 1990 when locality pay started are affected by this decision.

A three-judge panel on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit affirmed that the government has the right to make disparate pay arrangements based on where employees are located. Currently, federal employees outside the contiguous United States receive cost-of-living adjustments rather than the locality pay the 1990 Federal Employees Pay Comparability Act grants most civil servants in the contiguous states as part of their annual raise. Cost-of-living payments don't count toward retirement annuities but locality payments do, creating a potentially significant disparity between the two types of raises.

The ruling comes in response to a 2005 class action lawsuit brought by 15 employees living in Hawaii and Alaska, or interested in transferring there. The employees argued the differences in pay created an illegal barrier to travel between states, and asked the court not only to order the government to provide locality pay nationwide, but also to grant them back pay and allow them to count locality raises when calculating their retirement annuities.

The appeals court, however, agreed with the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii that the geographic disparity did not violate the Constitution, which guarantees citizens the right to enter a state without barriers, punishment or discrimination.

"Not everything that deters travel burdens the fundamental right to travel," chief appeals judge Alex Kozinski wrote in the [decision](#). "States and the federal government would otherwise find it quite hard to tax airports, hotels, moving companies or anything else involved in interstate movement."

Kozinski also noted that Congress often passes laws that affect geographic regions differently, and said limiting that power would "undermine our constitutional scheme."

Greg McGillivray, attorney for the employees, said he was disappointed in the ruling and that his clients were considering their options. They could request a larger panel of judges from the appeals court, or ask the Supreme Court to hear the case.

In the meantime, the employees could get some relief from the [2010 Defense Authorization Act](#), which requires the government to phase in full locality pay to federal workers in Alaska, Hawaii and other areas outside the contiguous United States by 2012.

But the law will not help those who already have retired and are receiving a lower annuity due to the lack of locality pay, McGillivray noted. He said if the class action lawsuit prevails, employees who have retired within the past decade might get their annuities boosted to reflect the locality pay they were denied.

- **DFAS MyPay Has New Access Requirements.** The Defense Finance and Accounting Service will soon implement new myPay access requirements to increase the security of user information. This change will require you to establish a new user name (login ID) and password to access your account. Customized login IDs and passwords will allow you more flexibility and opportunities to increase the security of your personal information.

When logging into myPay the first time following implementation of the new security enhancements, you will be allowed to use your existing login ID and PIN and will be prompted to change your login credentials. New login IDs will require six to 129 alphanumeric characters that will be unique to one user only. If you attempt to create a login ID that has already been established you will be prompted to create a different login ID. Help screens will contain the login ID requirements.

You will be required to establish a password to accompany your customized login ID. Passwords must be no less than eight and no more than 15 characters. Help screens will contain the password requirements. If you have established a Restricted Access PIN, you will also be prompted to establish a limited access login ID and password using the same requirements.

Use of the myPay interactive voice response system, which allows telephone access to certain pay information, may still be entered using the Social Security number and myPay PIN. While this security enhancement is intended to help keep your information secure and prevent unauthorized access to pay accounts, DFAS encourages you to take appropriate actions to keep your login IDs and passwords private. This can include storing them in a lockable and secure place, memorizing them and destroying any written record, and not sharing them with anyone.

Questions regarding this myPay change may be directed to the Centralized Customer Support Unit toll free at 1-888-DFAS411 or 1-888-332-7411, commercial (216) 522-5096, Defense Switching Network (DSN) 580-5096 (7:00 A.M - 6:30 P.M. / Eastern time).

- **The F-4 Phantom II Society.** [LTC Jeffrey Protacio](#) sent me a short newspaper article about the F-4 Phantom II Society. The following is the text from the article.

Aviation history was made just over 50 years ago when the first F-4 Phantom II aircraft took flight in St. Louis. During the following five decades the Phabulous Phantom contributed significantly to the national defense of the United States and ten other nations. To this date, the air forces of seven nations continue to operate the venerable F-4 Phantom II. While many of the 5,201 aircraft produced have been retired to the “bone yards” in Tucson, some aircraft are still serving the Department of Defense today as full scale aerial targets (drones).

The F-4 Phantom II Society has embraced the significant contributions the F-4 Phantom II and our members are dedicated to ensuring that its historical achievements are preserved for future generations. For more information and to learn more about how you can help preserve the history of this aircraft visit us at: www.f4phantom.com.

- TRICARE Offers New and Improved Pharmacy Benefits. The following is TRICARE press release #09-68, issued on November 3, 2009.

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The TRICARE Management Activity is introducing significant new enhancements to beneficiaries as it combines its mail-order and retail pharmacy contracts into one new contract called TRICARE Pharmacy.

The improvements to the TRICARE Pharmacy program include the Specialty Medication Care Management program in the mail-order pharmacy; expansion of the Member Choice Center providing assistance to help beneficiaries to switch their military treatment facility prescriptions to mail-order; and one call center phone number: 1-877-363-1303.

The Specialty Medication Care Management program is for beneficiaries using the mail-order pharmacy for their specialty medications. It is structured to improve their health through continuous health evaluation, ongoing monitoring, assessment of education needs, and management of medication use.

“TRICARE beneficiaries will be pleased to know that to get this improved benefit they don’t have to do anything,” said Rear Adm. Thomas McGinnis, TRICARE Management Activity’s chief pharmacy officer. “No calls, no paperwork. Beneficiaries don’t have to re-enroll, all co-pays stay the same and the network remains essentially unchanged.”

Express Scripts, Inc. was selected to provide mail-order, retail and specialty pharmacy services for the TRICARE Pharmacy program. This program will provide outpatient prescription drugs to 9.5 million beneficiaries.

Express Scripts currently handles millions of prescriptions each year through mail-order and retail pharmacies. For more information visit www.tricare.mil/pharmacy or www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE, or call 1-877-363-1303.

To read the TRICARE Pharmacy article visit http://www.tricare.mil/pressroom/press_article.aspx?fid=471

- When a Retiree Passes Away. When a retiree passes away, the surviving spouse, or children are often unsure about what they should do in regard to the military retiree's pay and benefits. A retiree should create a list of names and phone numbers that need to be contacted when he or she dies and inform the spouse and family members as to what is on the list and where to find it. This list should include the:

- DFAS, Retired and Annuity Pay Center 1-800-321-1080 to stop retired pay, apply for Survivor Benefits, and obtain information about insurance and other allotments

- Veterans Administration 1-800-827-1000 for Disability Pay and burial assistance and/or applying for Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DICE) for the surviving spouse

- Social Security Administration 1-800-772-1213 to discuss Social Security Survivor benefits

- Office of Personnel Management 1-888-767-6738 for retirees who are receiving civil service pensions in addition to military retired pay

- Rules of Engagement (ROE). Periodically, someone e-mails me requesting the e-mail address of another retiree. I forward the e-mail with the address request to the retiree for their action. This preserves the privacy of the retiree and their e-mail address.
- Disclaimer. The views and opinions expressed in **Retiree News** are those of the editor and do not represent official policy of The Adjutant General or the State Department of Defense.

3. The Wanted List. Help! **Retiree News** is looking for these Hawai'i National Guard members e-mail addresses or their addresses on file for them no longer works. E-mail their addresses to retireenews@hawaiiantel.net if you can share them.

Norman Chang
Chris Wilson
Tom Gresch
Wayne Z. Higa
Edward Uyeda

Russell Woodward
Byron Kim
Steve Ware
Katherine Asato

Following are the new or updated e-mail addresses sent in by the individuals or **Retiree News** readers – Mahalo for adding or updating your e-mail address.

Randy Solomon (update)
Drew Hurley
Ben Wright
Stan Hong (update)
Gary Momohara (update)
Richard DeVees

Greg Makishi
Tim Carroll (update)
Francis Mahelona
Robert Ednilao
Ben Pescador

The address total just passed **1150+** members. Be sure to ask your fellow retirees that you meet if they receive **Retiree News**. If not, send their e-mail address to retireenews@hawaiiantel.net. Mahalo for your support!

4. Condolences. These Hawai'i National Guard retirees passed away recently. They all served honorably and added something to our unique culture here in the Guard. Aloha Pumehana to all....

Douglas Freitas, Jr., 63, of Wolf Point, Montana, formerly of Honolulu, died Nov. 4, 2009. He was born in Honolulu. Maryknoll alumnus retired from Hawaiian Telephone Co.; Army National Guard member. Survived by daughter, Kathryn Freitas Ahin; sons, Douglas Jr. and Jesse Freitas Castillio; two grandsons; sisters, Barbara, Beverly Suenaga and Diane Lau. Send condolences to csmc@nemont.net or www.stevensonandsons.com.

Albert K.P. Chow, 86, of Honolulu, died Nov. 6, 2009. Born in Honolulu. Retired motor vehicle operator with the Air National Guard; Department of Defense employee at Hickam Air Force Base. Survived by daughter, Claudia Solmarin; grandchildren, Regina Asuncion and Keith Solmarin; four great-grandchildren; brothers, Fred, Walter and Wilfred.

Richard Lee, 73, of Kapolei, died Nov. 8, 2009. He was born in Wahiawa. He retired from the U.S. Army, National Guard and Hawaiian Telephone Company. Survived by wife, Sung Cha; mother of children, Dolores Biroan; sons, Robert, Samuel and Samson; daughters, Renee McClung-Lee, Rosalie Lee-Fergerstrom and Cecilia Kruger; 15 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; brothers, Danny Chung and Henry Lee; sisters, Helen Jury and Sarah Miller.

Larry "Uncle Larry" Anthony Calderon, 61, of Honolulu, died Nov. 11, 2009. He was born in Kau, Hawai'i. He is a retired Hawaiian Airlines line serviceman with 41 years of service; member of the Army National Guard. Survived by wife, Leimomi; daughter, Cheyenne Bakstad; sons, Preston and Abram; nine grandchildren; brothers and sisters.

Hiroyuki Tahara, 78, of Hilo, Hawaii, died Nov. 18, 2009. He was born in Paauilo Mauka. He retired as a Sergeant First Class with the Hawai'i Army National Guard and Hawai'i Air National Guard. Survived by wife, Winona; sons, Quentin, Tyrone and Shenan; stepson, Raynard Higa; daughter, Nyla Tahara-Day; step daughter, Jadelyn Onodera; brother, Richard, hanai brother, Everett Spencer; sisters, Margaret Tanoue, Atsuko Arakawa and Setsuko Kataoka; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

Kenneth James Camara, 75, of Honolulu, died Nov. 24, 2009. He was born in Honolulu. He retired from the Hawai'i Air National Guard 154th Cam Squadron with 42 years of service. Survived by wife, Geraldine; son, Dante; daughters, Ursula Camara and Natasha Stulberg; brother, Bill Smith; sisters, Leona Perhoff, Stephanie Iona, Ululani Malani, Helene Smith and Leilani Davenport; four grandchildren.

Roy Haroy Hajime Hidano, 67, of Kailua, Kona, Hawaii, died Dec. 3, 2009. Born in Honolulu. Retired electronic technician; retired from the Hawai'i Air National Guard. Survived by wife, Patricia; daughters, Jaime Funakoshi and Lisa; mother, Grace; brothers, Steven, Bruce and Don.

Kozen Kaneshiro, 78, of Manoa, died Dec. 11, 2009. Born in Wailuku, Maui. U.S. Army, Korean War veteran, and retired Air National Guard chief master sergeant and personnel management specialist. Survived by wife, Carol; son, Dale; daughters, Dawn Armstrong and Dori Tyau; brother, Ralph; six grandchildren.

5. Retiree Update.

- General McKinley Selects New Senior Enlisted Leader for NGB. **General Craig R. McKinley**, the Chief, National Guard Bureau, announced the selection of a new senior enlisted leader for the National Guard.

Chief Master Sgt. Denise Jelinski-Hall, of the Hawai'i Air National Guard, will be the third senior enlisted leader assigned to the Office of the Chief, National Guard Bureau. She will be responsible for advising McKinley on enlisted affairs of the 457,000 soldiers and airmen of the Army and Air National Guard. "This was a very tough decision, because of all the very well-qualified candidates who applied for this position," McKinley said. "Chief Jelinski-Hall will be a welcome addition to my staff."

Jelinski-Hall began her Air Force career in 1984 as an air traffic control operator at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. Four years later, she transferred to the communications field and the California Air National Guard. She joined the Hawai'i Guard in 1990 and became the command

chief master sergeant for the 154th Wing at Hickam Air Force Base in 2004. Before coming to NGB, she was the senior enlisted leader, which is a joint position, for the Hawaii Guard.

"We are very proud of Chief Jelinski-Hall's selection as the senior enlisted leader for the National Guard Bureau," said Maj. Gen. Bob Lee, the adjutant general of the Hawai'i National Guard. "She has accomplished many things in her 25-year career, and she will continue to excel at the national level. She will represent our soldiers and airmen extremely well."

McKinley made the announcement to hundreds of general officers and other senior Guard leaders at the Joint Senior Leadership Conference being held at the Gaylord Hotel on National Harbor outside of Washington, D.C., this week.

Send congratulatory e-mail: denise.jelinskihall@us.army.mil

- Joint Force Headquarters Hawaii (JFHQ-HI) Assignments. **MG Robert G.F. Lee**, the Adjutant General, send the following e-mail announcing the initial assignments in the Joint Force Headquarters Hawai'i.

-----Original Message-----

From: Lee, Robert GF MG NGHI [<mailto:bob.lee2@us.army.mil>]

Sent: Sunday, November 08, 2009 9:42 AM

Subject: Joint Force HQ-Hawaii (JFHQ-HI)

The Joint Staff will shortly approve the National Guard's concept of a Joint Force Headquarters for each State. We have been working on this issue since Lt Gen Steve Blum became the Chief of the National Guard.

The Staff of HIARNG and HIANG will come together to form our working Joint Staff and will be up and running in Jan 2010.

I have designated two key individuals to pull JFHQ-HI together. Effective immediately, **Col Joe Logan** (HIARNG) will be the Director of the Joint Staff and **Col Ann Greenlee** (HIANG) will be the Chief of Staff of the Joint Staff.

MG Lee

Send congratulatory e-mail:

joe.logan@us.army.mil

ann.greenlee@hihick.ang.af.mil

- The New 199th Fighter Squadron Commander Announced. **Col Braden "Mongo" Sakai**, the 154th Operations Group commander, announced the new 199th Fighter Squadron commander in the following e-mail.

-----Original Message-----

From: Sakai Braden Col HQ 154 OG/CC [<mailto:braden.sakai@hihick.ang.af.mil>]

Sent: Saturday, November 21, 2009 2:02 AM

To: ALL HIANG

Subject: 'New' 199th Fighter Squadron Commander

Please join me in Congratulating **Lt Col Glen 'Knockers' Nakamura** on being selected as the next 199th Fighter Squadron Commander.

His selection couldn't have come at a better time for the HIANG/Team Hickam, as history is about to be made when the 199th FS becomes an Active Associate Unit in the F-22 next year.

Knockers will lead the 199 FS as they phase out of the F-15s and convert to the F-22s. This is a tremendous tasking; one I know with his devotion, passion, experience and leadership style...Knockers is definitely more than ready for.

Mongo

Braden "Mongo" Sakai, Col, HIANG
154th Operations Group/CC
COM: 808-448-8304

Send congratulatory e-mail:
glen.nakamura@hihick.ang.af.mil

- The New HIANG Command Chief Master Sergeant Announced. **Maj Gen Darryll Wong**, Commander HIANG, announced the new Command Chief Master Sergeant in the following e-mail.

-----Original Message-----

From: Wong Darryll Maj Gen HIANG/CC [<mailto:darryll.wong@hihick.ang.af.mil>]
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 2:42 PM
To: ALL HIANG
Subject: New HIANG Command Chief

To all,
Please help me congratulate **Chief Rob Lee** on his selection as the new HIANG Command Chief. He has done an outstanding job as the Wing Command Chief and we are all very fortunate that he will now represent the entire HIANG.

Thank you all for what you do day to day.

Mahalo,
Darryll

Send congratulatory e-mail:
robert.lee@hihick.ang.af.mil

- The New 154th Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant Announced. **Colonel Joseph K. Kim**, the 154th Wing Commander, announced the Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant in the following e-mail.

-----Original Message-----

From: Kim Joseph Col 154 WG/CC
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2010 3:06 PM
To: ALL HIANG
Subject: 154th Wing Command Chief

Happy New Year!

I am pleased to announce that **CMSgt Willie Rafael** is the new 154 Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant. The selection was very difficult as there were many fine candidates. CMSgt Rafael will continue to represent and shape our enlisted force!!

JOSEPH K. KIM, Col, HIANG
COMM (808) 448-7253
EMAIL: joseph.kim@hihick.ang.af.mil

Send congratulatory e-mail:
willie.rafael@hihick.ang.af.mil

- Recruiting & Retention Regional Award Winners. **SMSgt Bridget Komine** announced Hawai'i Air National Guard members who won regional Recruiting & Retention awards in the following e-mail.

-----Original Message-----

From: Komine Bridget SMSgt HQ HIANG/A1R [<mailto:bridget.komine@hihick.ang.af.mil>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 25, 2009 1:17 PM
To: ALL HIANG
Subject: FY09 Recruiting & Retention Award Winners

It is with an extreme amount of pleasure that I inform you that the HIANG has won three awards for Recruiting & Retention in our region:

MSgt Rose (née Vendiola) Weldon - ROM of the Year
MSgt Donna Kim - RRNCO of the Year
TSgt Mysti Dowsett - Rookie Recruiter of the Year

All of these folks have exceeded the standard in their respective arenas and have achieved recognition as being the best of the best in our region. They will go on to compete nationally; the winners will be announced at the national conference in February.

Bridget K. Komine, SMSgt, HQ HIANG
Recruiting & Retention Superintendent
3949 Diamond Head Road
Honolulu HI 96816
Cellular: (808) 216-2515
Office: (808) 733-4228/4229

Send congratulatory e-mail:
roselina.vendiola@hihick.ang.af.mil
donna.kim@hihick.ang.af.mil
mysti.dowsett@hihick.ang.af.mil

- Congratulations and Best Wishes go to **MSgt Rose Vendiola** and recently retired Air Force **MSgt Joe Weldon**, who got married in October. They are two great people who waited a little while before getting married. Again congratulations and best wishes!

• New 150 AOS Commander Named. **Col Michael “Inch” Compton**, commander of the 109th Air Operations Group announced that **Col Robert Hoffman** is the new commander of the 150th Air Operations Squadron.

-----Original Message-----

From: HIANG NEWS [mailto:hiang.news@hickam.af.mil]

Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2009 9:27 AM

To: ALL HIANG

Subject: New 150 AOS Commander

Fellow Hawaii Guard members,

I am pleased to announce Colonel Robert Hoffman's selection as the Commander of the 150th Air Operations Squadron.

Col Hoffman has done an outstanding job as the 202nd Air Mobility Operations Squadron Commander and I look forward to both his passion and his talent in this new challenge. He was also a commander of the first AFRC numbered Air Force TFI associate unit for 13th AF. Previously in his 24-year Air Force career, he earned Command Pilot wings while flying both the B-52 and the C-130.

The change of command ceremony for the 150th AOS is planned for after the ENDEX of exercise Keen Edge on Wednesday, January 27, 2010. It will be held in the Courtyard of Heroes at 1600 hours. All are welcome!

Please join me in congratulating Col Hoffman!

Michael Compton, Col, HIANG
Commander, 109 AOG
Cell (808) 778-9190

Send congratulatory e-mail:
robert.hoffman@hickam.af.mil

• Veteran's Day Participation. The Hawai'i National Guard participated in several Veterans' Day celebrations statewide. Thanks to all the Guard members who participated in these events.

--- **BG Gary Hara** served as the Grand Marshall of the Hilo Veteran's Day parade. Members of the 1st Battalion, 299th Cavalry participated in the parade and there was a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter flyover.

--- The 111th Army Band and members of the 1st Battalion, 299th Cavalry participated in the Kauai Veteran's Day parade.

--- Members of the Hawai'i Army National Guard staff were in the Waianae Veteran's Day parade.

--- The 199th Fighter Squadron provided a F-15 “missing man” flyover at the Veteran's Day ceremony at Punchbowl.

--- At the Annual Veteran's Day Ceremony at the Hawaii State Veteran's Cemetery, the 111th Army Band provided the music for the ceremony. There was a CH-47 Chinook helicopter flyover and other Guard members served as shuttle drivers, and provide traffic and parking control.

- Retiree Update – Drew Hurley. Recently I made an e-mail hookup with a former Hawaii Air National Guard member, **Drew M. Hurley**. He sent the following e-mail to **TSgt Betty Squatrito-Martin**, the editor of the 154th Wing's newsletter, the **Kukailimoku**. It really summarizes his career in the HIANG and in Hawaii. For those who remember radio in the 70s, his radio moniker was Mike Hurley.

-----Original Message-----

From: Drew Hurley [mailto:attydhurley@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 02, 2009 11:12 AM
To: betty.squatrito@hihick.ang.af.mil
Cc: Yoshimoto, Galen R Mr NGHI/STATE
Subject: Kukailimoku

Betty,

I just received an email from an old friend of mine, Galen Yoshimoto, which included a copy of his Retiree Newsletter which mentioned "my" old paper, the Kukailimoku, which I hadn't thought about in many years. I just looked at your most recent edition and can say with great certainty that yours is a WHOLE bunch better than what I remember. I hope you'll let me reminisce.

I was the 154th PAO from 1979 through about 1982 when I switched to the 201st. I also served as State PAO from '80 through '83 before heading off to law school having worked in radio and TV for some 9 years before joining the Guard -- KKUA, KIKI, KORL, KHVH, KMVI, KITV-4 and KHON-2 -- all of which are either gone or changed so very radically.

When I did the Kukailimoku it entailed typing it out Saturday on an IBM Selectric typewriter -- much whiteout I assure you and no spell check, pasting on clip art and articles provided by the AF and NGB, and then trying to find a copy machine to make enough B&W copies to distribute on Sunday morning. It was pretty rough.

I would then carry the copies to the various units and hand them out. Rough as it was it was read with some enthusiasm if I do say so.

I left Hawaii on Christmas Eve 1985 to move to New Jersey -- what a culture shock! I joined the NJANG for the balance of my military career. However, when I think of the Guard I think of the HANG and the so many friends I made and the exceptional quality of the men and women I had the privilege of serving with.

If you can, in your next edition, pass on my Aloha and most sincerest best wishes to all for a bountiful, happy and Blessed Merry Christmas.

Drew M. Hurley, Esq.
Major, (Ret.) NJANG

- A very different fund raiser! Members of the 93rd Civil Support Team participated in the Over the Edge in Waikiki event on November 13, 2009. Members rappelled over the edge of the

Sheraton Waikiki, down 31 stories. The event was a fund raiser for Special Olympics Hawaii. A great event!

- New HQ 154th Wing First Sergeant Appointed. **TSgt Anthony Colon** will become the First Sergeant serving the HQ 154th Wing and the 154th Operations Group. TSgt Colon is currently assigned to the 154th Security Forces Squadron and works fulltime for the Honolulu Police Department. Congratulations to TSgt Colon!

- 2009 HIANG Base Honor Guard Person of the Year. The Hawai'i Air National Guard Base Honor Guard Advisor, **CMSgt Robert Lee**, announced that **TSgt Elijah Lincoln** is this year's "HIANG Base Honor Guardsperson of the Year". This is the second time Elijah has won this award. Congratulations to Elijah!

Send congratulatory e-mail: elijah.lincoln@hihick.ang.af.mil

- HIANG Volleyball Team Wins 2009 Hickam AFB Intramural Championship. The Hawai'i Air National Guard's volleyball team has again won the Hickam AFB Intramural Championship. The team defeated the 15th Logistics Readiness Squadron: 25-13, 21-25, and 14-12 (time expired). It's the HIANG's eight straight volleyball championship. Special Thanks to **TSgt Ryan Hunt** who provided the information for this report.

Congratulations to the following members of the championship team!

- **Maj Richard Cox**: 109th Air Operations Group, OH/MB
- **MSgt Richard Costa**: 154th Force Support Squadron, OH/MB
- **MSgt Marcus Dellasala**: 201st Intelligence Squadron, MB
- **TSgt Ryan Hunt**: 203rd Air Refueling Squadron, setter/OH
- **MSgt Clint Ikei**: 169th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron, setter/OH
- **Capt Kai Kahele**: 204th Airlift Squadron, OH/MB
- **1Lt Myles Kimura**: 203rd Air Refueling Squadron, OH
- **SSgt Salofi Leasiolagi**: 154th Security Forces Squadron, OH/MB
- **TSgt Stephen Lorenzo**: 169th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron, OH/MB coach
- **TSgt Robert Kim**: 154th Security Forces Squadron, OH
- **SrA Morris Niibu**: 169th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron, OH
- **Capt Brad Pactol**: 203rd Air Refueling Squadron, OH/MB
- **TSgt Ronnie Saqui**: 154th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, OH
- **Lt Col Stanley Snow**: HQ 154th Wing, OH/MB

Send congratulatory e-mail using this format: firstname.lastname@hihick.ang.af.mil

- The New Base Education & Training Manager Announced. **Lt Col Randy Tom**, commander of the 154th Force Sustainment Squadron announced the **MSgt Robert Joy** will be the new base and education manager. He assumed his new position on January 1, 2010. Rob brings an extensive in maintenance and combat communications. Rob replaces **CMSgt Jason Uota**, who has taken a MPA tour at Pacific Air Forces.

Send congratulatory e-mail: robert.joy@hihick.ang.af.mil

6. Upcoming Events. Events listed are by the event date.

- Change of Authority Ceremony. **MG Robert G. F. Lee**, The Adjutant General, requests the honor of your presence at a Change of Authority for the State Command Chief, the HIANG Command Chief, and the 154th Wing Command Chief.

When: Sunday January 10, 2010
Time: 0830
Where: Memorial Theatre, Hickam Air Force Base

CMSgt Robert Lee will become the Hawaii National Guard Command Chief. He will concurrently serve as the Hawaii Air National Guard Command Chief. Chief Lee comes in as **CMSgt Denise Jelinski-Hall** leaves for her new position as the Senior Enlisted Leader for the National Guard. Chief Lee currently serves as the 154th Wing Command Chief.

CMSgt Willie Rafael will become the 154th Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant, replacing Chief Lee.

- Aloha Dinner for CMSgt Denise Jelinski-Hall. **MG Robert G. F. Lee**, The Adjutant General, requests the honor of your presence at a farewell dinner in honor of CMSgt Denise Jelinski-Hall. In lieu of gifts, please make donations to the American Cancer Society or the National Kidney Foundation.

When: Saturday January 16, 2010
Time: 1730
Where: Tradewinds Enlisted club, Hickam AFB
Cost: \$27.00 per person
RSVP: Emmy Maikui-Grambusch: 733-4230
emmy.maikuigrambusch@hihick.ang.af.mil

- Retirement Ceremony and Dinner for Brig Gen Vincent. **MG Randolph D. Alles**, Director, Strategic Planning and Policy, United States Pacific Command cordially invites you to attend a ceremony and dinner in honor of **Brig Gen Edwin "Skip" Vincent Jr.** on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force.

When: Friday January 29, 2010
Time: 1730
Where: Hickam Officers' Club Lanai
Cost: \$30.00 per person E7/Higher/ Civilians
\$22.00 per person E6/below
RSVP: Jazlyn Miran: jazlyn.miran@pacom.mil or 477-7686
Not later than Tuesday, January 12, 2010

7. Website Links.

- The December issue of the 154th Wing's newspaper, the **Kuka'ilimoku**, is on the Hawaii State Department of Defense's website. Go to <http://hawaii.gov/dod/hiang/kukailimoku/2009-kukailimoku-issues/Kukailimoku%20Dec%202009.pdf>. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.

Since taking over several years ago, **TSgt Betty Squatrito-Martin** has done an outstanding job on the **Kuka'ilimoku**. The quality and content of each issue has improved vastly. Send congratulatory e-mail: betty.squatrito@hihick.ang.af.mil

- The State Department of Defense's newspaper, the **pupukahi**, is online. The **pupukahi** has gone totally electronic. The link to the current issue is www.hawaii.gov/dod - the **pupukahi** link is listed under the "What's New?" section. A super job by the **pupukahi** staff: **Lt Col Charles Anthony**, **CPT Jeffrey Hickman** and **Steven Lum** (HIARNG retiree).

Send congratulatory e-mail:

charles.anthony@hihick.ang.af.mil

jeff.hickman@ng.army.mil

stephen.m.lum@ng.army.mil

Past issues from 1997 through 2008 are posted on the website. The link is:

<http://hawaii.gov/dod/staff-offices/public-affairs/pupukahi>. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.

- The Current Issue of **Kukini** is Online. The Hickam AFB newspaper, the **Kukini**, is online at <http://www2.hickam.af.mil/library/hickamkukini/index.asp>. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.

- The November Issue of **Soldiers** Magazine is Online. To view the current issue of **Soldiers**, the official U.S. Army magazine, just log on to: <http://www.army.mil/soldiers/>. You can view back issues (electronic issues only) by clicking on "back issues" on the scroll bar when you get to the website referenced. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.

- The November-December 2009 Issue of **Airman Magazine** is Online. To view the current issue of **Airman Magazine**, just log on to: <http://www.airmanonline.af.mil/>. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser. You can view back issues (electronic issues only) by clicking on "back issues" on the scroll bar when you get to the website referenced.

- Federal Benefits for Veterans. The 2009 Edition of VA's Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors booklet is available online. The booklet provides the rates for certain federal payments and outlines many programs and services provided by VA and other federal agencies. It also includes toll-free phone numbers, Internet addresses and a directory of VA facilities throughout the country. <http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/fedben.pdf>. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.