

2010802 Retiree News

1. The Promise. *Retiree News* contains 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 to retireenews@hawaiiantel.net and you will be off the *Retiree News* mailing list.

2. Rules of Engagement (ROE). Periodically, someone e-mails a request for contact information for another *Retiree News* reader. We forward that e-mail to the reader for their action. This preserves the privacy of the reader and their e-mail address.

3. Business.

• Schwartz lays out 5 priorities for future. The Air Force chief of staff's vision for the future includes the addition of 7,000 procurement jobs, an end to the childcare deficit by fiscal 2012 and fielding the equipment necessary to adapt the service for modern warfare.

Gen. Norton Schwartz, writing in [a white paper](#) released July 4, admits he has made tough decisions since taking over as the service's top uniformed officer less than two years ago and spends much of "CSAF's Vector" listing recent accomplishments.

The threats against the U.S. will continue to change — and so will the Air Force, he said.

"In the future ... we are more likely to encounter the global proliferation of precision weapons, coupled with an increasing requirement for long-range strike and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) in areas guarded by increasingly capable, agile defenses," he wrote. "While our current plans mainly focus on near-term threats, we must work hard at developing and refining longer-term capabilities, mindful of the likelihood of more challenging budgetary constraints."

Schwartz identified five priorities for the service and laid out "the way ahead" - 32 proposals - though most lack specifics such as funding or a timeline. Among the proposals for the future:

- Strengthening nuclear enterprise: The Air Force will make a priority of investing in modernization and recapitalization of nuclear forces, Schwartz wrote. The service also will play an influential role in future nuclear policy debates and continue research and development on missile and bomber forces.
- Partnering with joint and coalition teams: Schwartz wants a more prominent role for the Joint Force Air Component commander, the officer in charge of air operations over a joint force, with missile defense. He wants better international cooperation, including the creation of an air adviser academy to train airmen to help build other countries' air forces and access to bases where the service's presence is light.
- Caring for families: Schwartz vows to eliminate the child care space deficit by fiscal 2012 and to improve commander involvement in the care of wounded airmen.
- Modernization: Schwartz vows to re-establish the Air Force as the global leader in electronic warfare through increased research and better training. He wants to develop the next-generation platform for long-range strike and persistent ISR capabilities and to advance directed-energy technologies. He also plans to reduce fuel consumption through better planning, alternative training and modernizations to bases.

- Improving acquisition performance: He wants to build an acquisition corps with a uniformed senior leader and to add 7,000 jobs in the next five years. He also calls for greater transparency and accountability in program and financial management, as well as "aggressive" science and technology development.

Read the entire white paper: <http://www.af.mil/information/viewpoints/csaf.asp?id=603>

• JBPHH's Ho'okele debuts. *Ho'okele* is the unofficial paper of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) published every Thursday. *Ho'okele* translated means navigator, a term applicable to both the Navy and Air Force. The staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office prepares, edits, and approves all editorial content. The Honolulu Star Advertiser prints the newspaper. This newspaper replaces the old Hickam AFB newspaper, *The Kukini* and its Pearl Harbor counterpart.

Check out the latest issue of *Ho'okele* at <http://www.hookelenews.com/>



• Computer Vision Syndrome (CVS). Elisa M. Gonzalez, the TRICARE Training and Outreach Coordinator for the Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program (CAP) wrote the following article.

Computer Vision Syndrome (CVS) is an eye problem that affects individuals who spend long hours at the computer screen. In comparison, it is much like the repetitive strain injury (RSI), which is a strain on the wrist brought on by excessive keyboard activity. CVS can be caused by numerous factors in the work environment, such as inadequate and harsh lighting, glare from windows, and sitting too close or too far away from the computer monitor. Also, the color of the text background and the way the contents are displayed on the screen can also cause an eye strain.

Commonly experienced symptoms are eye strains, tired eyes, headaches, backache, neck aches, blurred vision, double vision, or distorted color vision. Another common symptom is the speed of eye focusing. A slight delay in changing focus is considered a symptom of CVS.

A key factor to prevent or minimize the problem is to take regular breaks from the monitor and walk about periodically. When visiting a doctor, communicate a daily work routine involves 2 hours on a computer.

Computer eyeglasses can be prescribed, which can help eliminate the symptoms.

For more information on Computer Vision Syndrome, please visit <http://www.pennmedicine.org/ophth/conditions/cvs.html>

All operating systems have embedded assistive technologies that can assist you if you are suffering from any of the above mentioned symptoms. To learn more about embedded assistive technologies in your operating systems, please visit CAP's Green Page: <http://www.tricare.mil/cap/green/reduce.cfm>

• Free Bronze Medallions Available for Veterans' Graves. The following information comes from the Veterans Affairs Website <http://www.cem.va.gov/>. Thanks for **CMSgt Deb Brownhill** for forwarding the information.

Public Law 110-157, signed on December 26, 2007, allows the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to furnish a Government headstone or marker for the graves of eligible veterans who died on or after November 1, 1990, regardless of whether the grave is already marked with a

privately purchased headstone or marker. Under the previous law, when the grave was already marked, only veterans who died on or after September 11, 2001 were eligible.

Public Law 110-157, also gives VA authority to "furnish, upon request, a [medallion](#) or other device of a design determined by the Secretary to signify the deceased's status as a veteran, to be attached to a headstone or marker furnished at private expense." This benefit is available in lieu of a Government furnished headstone or marker, for veterans in privately marked graves who died on or after Nov. 1, 1990.

The medallion is currently available. Until a new form specifically for ordering the medallion is available, claimants may use the form used for ordering government headstones and markers, [VA Form 40-1330](#).

Important: Eligible veterans are entitled to either a Government-furnished headstone or marker, or the new medallion, but not both.

There is no change in eligibility for Veterans in unmarked graves: Regardless of the date of death, VA will furnish, at no charge to the applicant, a Government headstone or marker for the unmarked grave of any eligible veteran in any cemetery around the world.

Note: There is no charge for the headstone or marker itself, however arrangements for placing it in a private cemetery are the applicant's responsibility and all setting fees are at private expense.

- Exchanges Offer 'Bag Credit'. Army & Air Force Exchange Service-operated retail facilities are encouraging shoppers to bring their own reusable bags through its "Use a Bag, Save the Planet" initiative. Shoppers that use their own bags will get five cents back for every reusable bag used. The five cent credit applies only to shoppers who bring in and use reusable shopping bags (plastic bags do not apply). Customers who simply decline a plastic bag, but do not utilize a reusable bag, will not qualify for the five cent credit.

For more information, contact your local BX/PX. Find your local store on the AAFES website using the Store Locator feature. <http://odin.aafes.com/bases/index.asp>

4. The Wanted List. We are looking for these *Retiree News* readers because their e-mail addresses on file for them no longer works. Please forward their new e-mail address to retireenews@hawaiiantel.net if you can share them.

Terry Ganiko
George Lumives
Victor Ioli
Jeffrey Okazaki
Norman Chang
Chris Wilson
Tom Gresch

Mark Waddell
Francis Kawahara
Mo Collette
Roberto Carlos
Patrick Casey
Steve Ware
Katherine Asato

The addresses now total **1300** 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!

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.

Dennis Fujii (update)
Frank White

Charles Darby
William "Willy" Schauer

Joseph Kruse

Darrell Chun Fat

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

No passings this issue

6. Retiree Update.



• One of the new Retiree News readers added this issue is **Charles Darby**. Chuck was a long time member and later the commander of the 292^d Combat Communications Squadron on Maui. In civilian life, he worked as a contractor at the Air Force detachment on Haleakalā.

Chuck provided this photo and following information.

"My wife Patty and I are both Senior Retired Ordained Assembly of God Ministers. Also, I am retired U.S Air Force, Textron, and Boeing. We are living in Wichita, Kansas and enjoying retirement, cruises, nine grandkids, friends, and Augusta First Assembly of God Church. We are also booked on a Panama

Canal Cruise in October for our 49th Wedding Anniversary."

Great reconnecting from Chuck after many years!

• Dennis Fujii Retires. **Dennis Fujii**, the Chief of Community Affairs at US Pacific Command retired at the end of July. He worked in the public affairs office at PACOM for over 18 years. Prior to his PACOM position, he served several years with the Hickam AFB public affairs office. Dennis served with Public Affairs Detachment, Hawai'i Army National Guard and retired several years ago. Happy Retirement Dennis!

• 199th Fighter Squadron Retiree Luncheon. I had the privilege to attend the monthly meeting of the retirees from the 199th Fighter Squadron. They meet the last Wednesday of every month at different locations around O'ahu. **John "Saigon" Lee** is the organizer of these luncheons. The following retirees were there and it was great seeing all of them. I even got two more email addresses for *Retiree News*.

Bruce "Ace" Ellinwood
Dick Hastings
Dave "DYFL" Lung
Gerrit "Oz" Osborne
Robbie "Bizzare" Robinson
William "Willy" Schauer
Mike "Boss" Tice
Frank White

James "Gooch" Haruguchi
George Joy
Robert Maguire
Leroy "Stringer" Perry
Hal "Shaka" Schatz
Danny Stone
Wayne "Wildman" Wakeman

• Checking Out Old Photos. **Ted Merrill**'s last assignment with the Hawai'i Air National Guard was the 154th Wing's historian. He sent in a DVD with a lot of HIANG historical material. We are working to post some of the materials on the State DoD website. It will take a while and you will see an announcement in *Retiree News* when the uploading is complete. In the mean time, there will be a "teaser" photo in each issue.

"Even the palest ink is better than the best memory." - Chinese proverb

The picture below was taken in 1985 at the Combat Sage Alert Barn in Clark Air Base, Philippines. The 154th Wing deployed there for live fire and Dissimilar Aircraft Training (DACT) training. In the photo are the members of the Avionics Branch who deployed.

Thanks to [Stan Heu](#), [Kyle Kawakami](#), and [Ron Muronaga](#) for identifying the individuals in the photo. 1985 was a long time ago....



Top row: [Henry Kajiwara](#), [Eddie Sugai](#), [Benjamin Lara](#), [Charles Bell](#), [Beverly Coleman](#), [Stanley Heu](#), *unknown*, [Ronald Chun](#)

Middle row: [Stanley Okazaki](#), [Ronald Muronaga](#), [Raymond Kaneshiro](#), [Jerry Choo](#), [Stewart Lee](#), [Kyle Kamikawa](#), [George Tokoro](#)

Front row: [Lester Leung](#), [William Pimentel](#), *unknown*, [Alvin Dang](#), *unknown*, [Miles Okihiro](#), [Rex Koga](#)

- From the 154th Support Group Training Bulletin. While serving as the executive officer for the then 154th Support Group from the mid 90s through the early 00s, I was the editor of the group's *Training Bulletin*. The following excerpts are from my "In My Opinion" column in the **August 1994** issue. How time flies....

[Col Melvin Morris](#) will retire as a technician at the end of this month. In September, he starts his new job with the State in the telecommunications branch. Col Morris will remain as the Deputy Commander for Maintenance in military status. *Have a happy "working" retirement Colonel!*

[SSgt Dorene Bosco](#) of the Consolidated Base Personnel Office (CBPO) returns to

Connecticut, where she plans to complete her college degree. She has transferred back to the Connecticut ANG. As an AGR in the CBPO, Dorene worked hard to improve processes in her area and provided service with that special smile. *Aloha Dorene!*

Congratulations to **Capt Randy Tom** of the State Headquarters. The National Guard Bureau selected him for a four year tour at the Readiness Center at Andrews AFB. He will work in the recruiting branch. *Congratulations again Randy.*

Just back from officer commissioning is **Lt Mark Ishiki**. He was a distinguished graduate of the Academy of Military Science at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base. Mark will join the social actions office. Mark served with the group headquarters support staff prior to going off to officer training. *Congratulations and welcome back!*

7. Upcoming Events. The events listed are by the event date. The red star ★ denotes new postings since the last issue of *Retiree News*.

● Departure Ceremony for 1-171 Aviation. There will be a departure ceremony for Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 171st Aviation Regiment. About 150 soldiers of Bravo Company will deploy to Afghanistan. The ceremony will be on Sunday, August 8, 2010, starting at 1100 at the Army Aviation Support Facility #1 at Wheeler Army Air Field.

★ Pinning Ceremony Invitation - SMSgt Raquel Ramos. Headquarters Hawai'i Air National Guard respectfully requests the pleasure of your company at a Pinning Ceremony for **SMSgt Raquel Ramos**.

The ceremony specifics are:

When: Saturday, August, 7 2010
Time: 1100, lunch to follow
Where: Headquarters, Hawai'i Air National Guard
3949 Diamond Head Road
RSVP: Call 733-4229 by August 6, 2010

Send congratulatory e-mail: raquel.ramos@hihick.ang.af.mil

● 103d Troop Command Leadership Changes. On Saturday, August 7, 2010, the leadership of the 103d Troop Command will change in a dual ceremony. A reception will follow the ceremonies. Congratulations to all!

There will be a Transfer of Authority ceremony for the 103d Troop Command's Command Sergeant Major. **1SG Russell Ige** will become the Command Sergeant Major vice **CSM Ronald Oshiba**. 1SG Ige comes to the position from his current position with HIARNG aviation. CSM Oshiba returns to his operations position within the 103d Troop Command. The ceremony begins at 1300 in the Assembly Hall of the 103d Troop Command in Pearl City.

Send congratulatory e-mail:
russell.ige@us.army.mil
ronald.oshiba@us.army.mil

There will be a change of command ceremony with **Col Bryan Suntheimer** assuming command from **Col Stephen Logan**. This ceremony will begin at 1400 in the Assembly Hall. Col Suntheimer leaves his HIARNG G4 position to become the commander and Col Logan remains as the HIARNG's State Aviation Officer.

Send congratulatory e-mail:

bryan.suntheimer@us.army.mil
stephen.logan@us.army.mil

If you are attending either ceremony, RSVP by July 30, 2010. The POC is **SSG Hector Alegre** at 672-1761 or hector.alegre@us.army.mil

• Retirement Ceremony for Lt Col Thomas Mau. There will be a retirement ceremony to **Lt Col Thomas Mau**, the long-time commander of the 199th Weather Flight. Lt Col Mau sent out the following message

I would like to thank everyone for making my 28+ years in the Hawai'i Air National Guard an extremely challenging, rewarding and fulfilling experience.

Each of you, in your own special way, have contributed to making the HIANG a great organization. Mahalo for your service to the state of Hawai'i and to this great nation!

Aloha Tom Mau

The ceremony specifics are:

When: Sunday, August 8, 2010
Time: 1100, refreshments and pupus to follow
Where: Headquarters, Hawai'i Air National Guard
3949 Diamond Head Road
RSVP: Call 448-8338 by Tuesday, August 3, 2010

Send congratulatory e-mail: thomas.mau@hihick.ang.af.mil

• 29th BSB Change of Command Ceremony. **COL Keith Tamashiro**, the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team Commander cordially requests your presence at the 29th Brigade Support Battalion Change of Command Ceremony. **LTC Lynn J. Ishii** will assume command from **LTC Keith N. S. Yoshida**. The ceremony will commence at 1300 hours on Sunday, August 8, 2010 at Building 282, Kalaeloa, Hawai'i. There will be refreshments after the ceremony. Congratulations to both officers!

Send congratulatory e-mail:

lynn.ishii@us.army.mil
keith.yoshida@us.army.mil

• Retirement Ceremony for MSgt Galan Fujimoto. The 154th Civil Engineer Squadron will host a retirement ceremony in honor of **MSgt Galan Fujimoto**. The ceremony specifics are:

When: Sunday, August 8, 2010
Time: 1300, refreshments to follow
Where: 154th Civil Engineer Squadron Compound
Hickam AFB, Hawai'i
RSVP: 448-7019 or allison.delossantos@hihick.ang.af.mil by 31 July 2010

Send congratulatory e-mail: galan.fujimoto@hihick.ang.af.mil



- Retirement Luncheon for SFC Scott Nomura. Please come and join the Human Resources Office as we give a fond farewell to **SFC Scott Nomura** and celebrate his 37 years of military service. The specifics follow:

When: Friday, 1 October 2010
Time: 1130-1330
Where: Hale Ikena, Ft Shafter
Cost: \$21.00 per person; gift only: \$5.00

Attire: Military: uniform of the day; Civilian: Aloha attire

RSVP: Monday, August 16, 2010; checks payable to **Cash**

POC: **MSG Maria Durham**, 844-6291 or mariavictoria.durham@us.army.mil

Send congratulatory e-mail: scott.nomura@us.army.mil

- Save the Date – Hawai'i National Guard Birthday Ball. This year's Hawai'i National Guard Birthday Ball is on Saturday, December 11, 2010 at the J.W. Marriott Ihilani Resort and Spa in Kapolei. This joint event celebrates the 374th Birthday of our National Guard's beginnings. The planning meetings for this annual event have already begun. Definitely more details to come.

To find out more about the Ihilani, go to <http://www.ihilani.com/>

8. Website Links.

Past Issues of Retiree News are on line at the Hawaii State Department of Defense's website. Go to: <http://hawaii.gov/dod/staff-offices/public-affairs/retiree-news>. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.

The 2010 Issues of the 154th Wing's newspaper, the Kūkā'ilimoku, is on the Hawaii State Department of Defense's website. Go to: <http://hawaii.gov/dod/hiang/kukailimoku/2010-kukailimoku-issues>. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.

The 154th Wing's External Website is Online. The 154th Wing's external website is accessible from any computer. Check it out at www.154wg.ang.af.mil. Be sure to check out the "photos tab". If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.

The State Department of Defense's Newspaper, the pupukahi, is Online. The *pupukahi* is now electronic. The link to the current issue starts at www.hawaii.gov/dod - then click on the *pupukahi* link listed under the "What's New?" section.

The Spring Issue of On Guard Magazine is Online. The new Spring issue of the *On Guard* online is out, go to http://www.ng.mil/features/onguard-mag/pdf/Spring10/Spring_2010.pdf. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser. This is a very slow loading website.

The August 2010 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. If the link does not work, copy it to your internet browser.

"Even the palest ink is better than the best memory." - Chinese proverb

The July-August 2010 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.