

20100928 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@hawaiiintel.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.

- **Need Your E-mail Address Updates.** The “Wanted List” is growing again! If you are changing e-mail address, please send in your new address to retireenews@hawaiiintel.net. Thanks.

- **Technically, Many May Soon Be Veterans.** The House Veterans Affairs Committee has sent to the House a bill that would add to the definition of a veteran someone who has served at least 20 years in the National Guard or Reserve and qualified to earn retirement pay, but did not spend at least 180 consecutive days on federal status.

Currently, that person is technically not recognized as a veteran, although he or she receives all benefits accrued through service.

The bill, H.R. 3787, is sponsored by Rep. Timothy Walz, D-Minn., and supported by NGAUS. At the hearing last week, Walz described the bill.

“The purpose of this legislation is very clear,” he said. “It’s to honor the members of the National Guard and Reserve who volunteered for service, wore the uniform proudly, were subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, learned their trade, kept up with their training and stood ready to answer the call for as long as they were asked by this nation.

“But through no fault of their own, as the law is written ... if they are not called up to a period of qualified federal service, we deny them the right to be called ‘veteran.’ As a 24-year Guardsman and veteran, I know this to be an injustice.”

The change in law would have zero cost, he said, because these people are already receiving benefits for which they are eligible, such as retirement pay and TRICARE health care.

“Let me be clear. This is about honor, not about monetary benefits,” Walz said.

When Rep. Henry Brown Jr., R-S.C., asked about including people who served for fewer than 20 years, Walz said he supported that idea if he could be sure it would not come with any monetary costs. He said Brown’s question would be looked at after H.R. 3787 becomes law

- **Managing Stress.** Everyone has some stress in their lives. But what do you do when situations that cause physical and emotional stress reactions are non-stopping and your body never gets a chance to relax? Check out this web site on managing stress.

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/tutorials/managingstress/htm/index.htm>

- **Pacific Aviation Museum Renovation Project.** The Pacific Aviation Museum is preparing to begin a \$7.5 million restoration and stabilization project on the tower and observation deck for the Ford Island Air Tower. The tower is where a radioman issued the first radio broadcast of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor at 8:05 a.m. on Dec. 7, 1941. The 158-foot tall tower is seen by more than two million people a year during their visit to the National Park Service's World War II Valor in the Pacific Monument. For more information on the museum, visit the [Pacific Aviation Museum website](#).

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@hawaiiintel.net if you can share them.

Orlan Peterson
Barbara Lee
George Lumives
Victor Ioli
Jeffrey Okazaki
Norman Chang
Chris Wilson
Tom Gresch

Francis Kawahara
Joseph Spatola
Mark Waddell
Francis Kawahara
Roberto Carlos
Patrick Casey
Steve Ware
Katherine Asato

The addresses now total **1350** 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@hawaiiintel.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.

Ross Barcarse (update)
Ann Miyahira (update)
Lionel Calvin
Samuel Makaiwi
John King (update)
Ronald Mendoza

Dan Garcia
Lester Leung (update)
Donna and Scott Hoadley (update)
Ross Hoopai
Steven Wong (update)
Allen Kiyota

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....

Dorothy Hulimai Rodrigues, 70, of Wailuku, passed away on September 20, 2010. A retired state clerk typist for the Hawai'i Army National Guard, died in Maui Memorial Medical Center. She was born in Wailuku. She is survived by husband Joseph J. Sr.; sons Daniel Lau III, Joseph Jr. and Henry; daughters Donna Gonzales, Debbie Mitchell, Joellyne Pua'a, Jacqueline Rodrigues, Darylann Smith and Joni Togashi.

6. Retiree Update.

- **Attention to Orders - HIANG Senior NCO Promotions.** The Hawai'i Air National Guard promoted the following members to the senior non-commissioned officer (SNCO) ranks. Congratulations!

Promoted to Master Sergeant (MSgt / E-7)

Timothy Barnett, 154th Operations Support Squadron

Sarah Medeiros, 154th Communications Flight
Venus Santamaria-Lusk, 154th Maintenance Operations Flight
Wilda Shigeta, 154th Maintenance Operations Flight
Steven Shimoda, 154th Maintenance Squadron

Send congratulatory e-mail:

timothy.barnett@hihick.ang.af.mil
sarah.medeiros@hihick.ang.af.mil
venus.santamarialusk@hihick.ang.af.mil
wilda.shigeta@hihick.ang.af.mil
steven.shimoda@hihick.ang.af.mil

- Winners of the 2010 HNGEA Scholarship Award. **Larnette Doi**, the Chair of the Hawai'i National Guard Enlisted Association Scholarship Committee, sent out an e-mail announcing the winners of the 2010 Scholarship Awards. Congratulations to the scholarship winners.

Please help me in congratulating the following recipients of the 2010 Hawai'i National Guard Enlisted Association (HNGEA) Scholarship Award.

SSgt Mayson Asano, member of the 154th Maintenance Squadron
Phaedra Lairsey, spouse of **SrA Jakob Lairsey**, 154th Logistics Readiness Squadron
Hailey Hema, daughter of **SMSgt Gary Hema**, 154th Maintenance Squadron

As you know the objective of the Hawai'i National Guard Enlisted Association (HNGEA) Scholarship Program are to encourage higher education by providing financial assistance; and, to provide a benefit that will enhance the recruitment of HNGEA members.

On behalf of the HNGEA President, **CMSgt Ethan Toyama**, the Executive Council, the Scholarship Committee, and all members of the Hawai'i National Guard Enlisted Association, who make our scholarship awards possible, we would like to wish all of the applicants the best in the coming semester. We look forward to hearing of their success!

Quick Update: **MSgt Larnette Doi** retired in March with more than 30 years service. She is now a contractor doing great work with **Mrs. Lorna Souza** on Family Support issues. Among her other duties, Larnette does a great job organizing Yellow Ribbon events for returning Hawai'i Air National Guard Airmen. Send e-mail: larnette.doi@hihick.ang.af.mil.

- Hawai'i Army National Guard on Facebook. The commander of the 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery, **LTC Roy Macaraeg**, sent me an e-mail about his battalion's Facebook page. When you log in a "LIKE" the page, periodic updates will show up in your News Feed. Go To:

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100001460924779>



The 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery is a 105MM, Direct Support artillery battalion to the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (29 IBCT). Equipped with the M119A1 towed howitzer, the 1st 487th provides fire support to the infantry battalions of the 29th IBCT.

Hiki No, which means "Can Do Always", is the battalion's motto. The battalion consists of three firing batteries, a support company from the 29th Brigade Support Battalion and a headquarters battery: Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Golf (support) and Headquarters & Headquarters Battery.

The 1st Battalion, 487th Field Artillery armory is located on Kamehameha Highway just outside of Wahiawā, across the highway from Wheeler Army Air Field.

• Retiree Update: Lt Col Chuck Pribyl. **Chuck Pribyl**, who served and retired from the 169th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron. He is one of the many military members/retirees across America who are filling claims for Stop Loss Pay. (See the 20100914 *Retiree News* for more information about Stop Loss Pay.) In our e-mail exchange, Chuck provided an update since he retired in 2002. Great hearing from Chuck.

I had moved to California in December of 1999 to work as a computer specialist with Yosemite National Park. I made number of trips back to Hawaii and thought I was effectively retired in April of 2001 when I completed all my drills, etc. for FY2001 and returned to California. All I had to do was wait on my paper work to go thru for the actual retirement of 1 November 2001. Then the events of 9/11 and I found myself back at the 169th for an extended amount of time until I was released from active duty in June of 2002.

So I am back living in Mariposa, California and still working as a computer specialist for Yosemite. My wife, Linda, and I really enjoy the taking advantage of all the area has to offer. Beautiful country side and a great place for hiking, canoeing, skiing and cycling. It is pretty rural but not too far from Fresno to allow me to continue to play in an adult ice hockey league once a week. Playing hockey in an adult league actually started for me in Hawai'i in 1986 at the Ice Palace at Stadium Mall. The friendliness of the small community we live in reminds me a lot of Hawaii and all the tourists that come through here just seems to add to that.

I often think back on the events and people of my 21+ years in Hawaii. Many fond memories and your newsletter, especially those photos from the archives, keep them alive. Thanks for putting it together and keeping all us ol' timers informed.



• Update: Chaplain Mark Chong Lee. **Chaplain Mark Lee** served the Hawai'i Air National Guard in both the 154th Wing and the 201st Combat Communications Group for several years. In civilian life, he was the head pastor at the Community Church of Honolulu.

But then he has a calling. Chaplain Lee transferred to the active Army to serve in the military fulltime.

After completing his Army certification training he was assigned to a combat engineer battalion at Fort Lewis in Washington State. He served with his battalion during their yearlong deployment to Iraq. Chaplain Lee is currently assigned at the Madigan Army Medical Center on Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington State.

What follows is his comment in a recent e-mail. Really great hearing from Chaplain Lee.

I'm trying to get things ready for my next deployment. Since I'm with a combat operational stress control unit, the stressors of deployment will not be same as when I went with combat engineers. I actually look forward to deploying in this capacity. I'm sure we'll stay busy, but I wonder how things will be with 50,000 support soldiers without the "combat" operations like we had in 2005. My wife and kids will have to adjust to life without me around for a year, but I'm sure that they will do well. While February is a few months away, I know that time will go quickly and I will be heading out the door before I know it, so I'm trying to make plans for some good family time memories before I leave. We decided to not go to Hawaii until after I return.

- HIARNG Retirees for August 2010. The Hawai'i Army National Guard G1 Branch provided the names of the following soldiers who recently retired in August 2010. Mahalo to each Soldier for their long and faithful service and Happy Retirement!

SSG Filomena Alviar, HQ 298th Regiment, Multifunctional Training Brigade (RTI)

- Article Comments and Feedback. There was some great feedback about **Milton Yee's** article in the last issue about the history of the A & B Troop, 1st Squadron, 299th Cavalry. Another Big Mahalo to the Sergeant Major for his research and for sharing his memories.

Retiree News is always open to inputs like the Sergeant Major's. Your editor's background is from the Air Guard and anything shared about the Army Guard is greatly appreciated.

- Article Correction and Comments. Last issue's article about the results of the 1997 ANG Majors Promotion Board also generated great feedback. Several readers said the names listed brought back some memories of good times with these individuals. The Hawai'i Air National Guard had the large numbers facing the board because of the earlier startup of the 203rd Air Refueling Squadron and the 204th Airlift Squadron. During the squadron startups in the early nineties, many of the officers were came from active duty to return to Hawai'i and these new squadrons.

Several readers emailed to say that **Kenneth Bailey** was a member of the 204th Airlift Squadron vice the 203rd Air Refueling Squadron. In his email to *Retiree News*, **Sam Wong** went on to say that Ken passed away March 12, 2002. The Chief's additional comments about Ken follow.

Ken was a full time pilot with us for about 4 or 5 years before he landed a job with United Airlines. He came to us from the active duty. Moanalua High School graduate, Air Force Academy graduate. Fluent in Japanese, so was really good to have him with us whenever we flew into Japan.

Quick Update: After **Sam Wong** retired from the 204th Airlift Squadron, the Chief began work as a contactor with the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserves (ESGR) office. He is doing a great job as the Program Support Manager. Send e-mail: samuel.wong1@us.army.mil

- Checking Out Old Photos. **Stephen Lum**, a Hawai'i Army National Guard retiree who works in the Public Affairs Office, found another old photo in their historical files. This photo shows the then Specialist **Michael C. K. Wong**, sometime in the mid-1970s.



Mike enlisted in the on September 30, 1971. He served as Clerk-Typist in Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Hawai'i Army National Guard. He later served as a Race Relations/Equal Opportunity Specialist and rose to the rank of Specialist 5.

Mike received a direct commission to second lieutenant on February 12, 1997 in the Adjutant General Corps. His initial M-Day assignment was the Race Relations/Equal Opportunity Officer. Mike became a fulltime AGR and served as the Civilian Education

Officer, Military Personnel Officer, and the HIARNG Executive Officer/Assistant Chief of Staff. His last assignment was as the G1 Military Personnel Officer before he retired in May 2004.

When he saw his photo, Mike said, "Good God, where the hell did you dig up this photo? In the same e-mail, he provided an update on what he has done since he retired from the Guard.

In June 2004, the University of Hawai'i, Leeward Community College hired me to head the College's Human Resource Office as the Campus Personnel Officer & Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Coordinator. I am responsible for personnel management (spanning from recruitment to pay and benefits to retirement/separations); labor management (collective bargaining and grievances); adverse actions (complaints, conflict resolution, and employee discipline); organizational structure and staff planning; leadership training; and personnel and administrative policy development. There are times when I feel like I never left the Hawaii National Guard.

• Retiree Connections.

- Ran into **Brian Tom** at a car maintenance facility recently. After he retired from the Comptroller Office, he started working at the Board of Water Supply. Great seeing another smiling retiree.
- **Preston Nishie** forwarded me the updated e-mail address for **Donna and Scott Hoadley**. According to Pres, "the Hoadley's are now residing in the happiest place on earth, Las Vegas." Pres continues to be a happy retiree himself.
- Attending the DoD Retirement Luncheon were several retirees: **Robert Finley**, **Leonard Tam**, and **Alika Watts** (who did his usual super job as MC).

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



- 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, Hawai'i](#)

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

★ Hawai'i National Guard Carwash. The Hawai'i National Guard will wash cars to raise money to offset the costs of the upcoming Hawai'i National Guard Birthday Commemoration. The specifics follow:

When: Saturday, October 9, 2010

Where: [Union 76 Gas Station, 2105 South King Street](#)

Time: 0900-1600

Donation: Cars: \$5.00
Vans, Trucks, SUVs: \$7.00

Contact **Col Randy Tom** for more information or to purchase tickets at 672-1226 or randall.tom@hihick.ang.af.mil, or randy.tom@us.army.mil.

★ HNGEA Annual General Membership Meeting. The Hawai'i National Guard Enlisted Association will hold its annual general membership meeting. Agenda topics include elections, and the National Conference Report. The specifics follow:

When: Saturday, October 23, 2010

Where: [Oahu Veterans Center, 1298 Kukila St., Honolulu, Hawai'i 96818](#)

Time: 0900-1100

Contact **CMSgt Ethan Toyama** for more information ethan.toyama@hihick.ang.af.mil.

Related Sites: www.hngea.net and www.eangus.org.

★ 154 SFS Family Support Fundraiser Bowling Tournament. The 154th Security Forces Squadron Family Support Group will host a no-tap fundraiser bowling tournament. There will be trophies for the top three teams and for the top male and female bowlers. Contact **CMSgt Ray Duropan** to get the entry form. There will be a \$1.00 raffles for fabulous prizes.

When: Friday, 29 October 2010

Time: Check in at 1730

Where: Hickam AFB Bowling Lanes

Cost: \$20.00 per bowler, includes bowling fees for three games

RSVP: Wednesday, October 20, 2010; checks payable to **154 SFS Family Support**

POC: **CMSgt Ray Duropan**, 448-7262 or Ray.Duropan@Hickam.af.mil



● TAG's Retirement Lū'au. The Hawai'i National Guard cordially invites you to the retirement lū'au in honor of **MG Robert G. F. Lee**, The Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii. The specifics follow:

When: Sunday, November 7, 2010

Where: [Hale Koa Hotel](#), Luau Garden
2055 Kalia Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96825

Time: 1700: Cocktails
1830: Dinner and program

Menu: Traditional Hawaiian lū'au

Cost: Officer/Civilian: \$45.00
Enlisted: \$35.00
Checks payable to "**DoD Retirement and Service Award Fund**"

Attire: Aloha attire

RSVP: Monday, October 11, 2010

Retirees: contact **Col Randy Tom**, 672-1226 or randy.tom@us.army.mil



★ Save the Date – Hawai'i National Guard Birthday Commemoration. This year's Hawai'i National Guard Birthday Commemoration 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 committee met last Wednesday and provided the following updates.

- There will be a golf tournament on Friday, December 10, 2010. There will be a flyer coming out on this event soon.
- No-host cocktails will begin at 1700, with dinner to follow.
- The Ihilani Resort will offer special rooms rates – more information to follow.
- The attire for the Birthday Commemoration will be Best Dress for military members and coat and tie/formal dress for civilians. Retirees may wear uniforms as prescribed by the applicable Army or Air guidance.

Future issues will provide more specific information about the Birthday Commemoration events.

8. Website Links.

Past issues of *Retiree News* are on line at the Hawai'i 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 Hawai'i 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.

★ HIANG's Flickr photo sharing site. This site is accessible from any computer with no "registration" required. Go to: www.flickr.com/photos/hiang for photo for recent HIANG events. The site is continuously updated with new photos of events.

● The September 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.

● The September/October 2010 Issue of *Airman Magazine* is online. View the current issue of *Airman Magazine* at: <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.