

Hawaii District Annual Report

It has been a quick year filled with events and happenings to engage members in activities. One of our goals is to involve more members in activities and service to HSTA-R.

Our West Hawaii Community Club was particularly active this year. They are under the direction of Jo Ann Iwane. Their activities included a trip to West Hawaii Youth Academy to see their new facilities and the fabulous ideas that the students have developed. They also had a holiday wreath making class in Kona for the members. Their next project will be a workshop on book binding. Be sure to watch for announcements of future events.

On the east side, the council had community service projects of helping with the blood bank, the international marathon in Hilo, food collection for the food bank, and helping the hospice station at Macy's at holiday time. Members who rallied around and gave of their time for these events deserve much praise for their work and assistance. Betty Ann Yoshimura is our community service coordinator and does a magnificent job.

I have served as president for Hawaii HSTA-R for four years now. No one person can do it all so I must thank those who have stepped up and assisted me. First, I

would like to thank Avis Mortemore for her valuable assistance as Vice President. She has always been there for us for every event and has served the same four years. She plans the annual meeting and the end of year celebrations as well as welcome events for new members. She provides a safe meeting space and delectable food to enjoy for all. She is organized and gives us her best service every time. Thank you Avis.

The next thank you goes out to Lorraine Hora. She has served as our secretary and historical data rememberer. She is the go to person with all questions about HSTA-R. If she does not know the answer she knows who to ask. She sends out memorial cards, invitations, and membership connections for us. Her minutes are the best. She is an at large member of the HSTA-R state board of directors. Thank you so much Lorraine.

Our treasurer, Lois Shimizu, is known to be the best in the state. Her records are impeccable. She knows where every penny is spent and by whom. She keeps us honest and keeps our books up to date all of the time. Her monthly reports are valuable to all members and are always available for checking. Thank you Lois for all of your help in keeping us up to date.

Members of the district council handle many jobs. Ingrid keeps our membership records in order. Kim

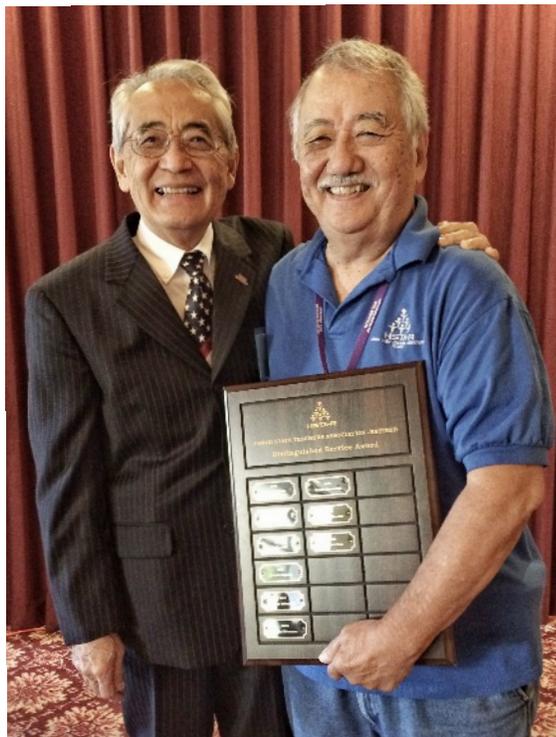
works at being our webmaster. Steve is in charge of all government relations projects and keeps us informed about legislative issues as well as Hara activities. Gary serves on the state Retirement Issues Committee and delivers reports to us on their decisions and activities. Ingrid is our new membership chair and does a fine job of keeping track of all of you.

Arleen Yoshimura is our pre-retirement chair. She is also a part of the state level delegation. She makes sure all members find out what they need to know about retirement while they are still active. She leads workshops and oversees others who work in the variety of areas of service. Finally Myrna Watanabe is our Aloha Committee chair. With her help we always have refreshments at meetings so a good time is had by all.

I thank each of these people for their help in making my term of office a pleasant one. Mahalo to each of you and to all of the supportive members who have made the last four years fun and productive for all of the 800 Big Island retired teachers. Blessings on each of you for your service to HSTA-R.

In Service,
Niyati Brown
President





HSTA-R DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations to our own Steve Ono on being awarded the HSTA-R Distinguished Service Award at our recent Delegate Assembly. Before retirement, Stephen was very active in HSTA, serving as State Director, VEBA Trust, Hilo Chapter Vice President and President. He was always an active participant in PAC, and very involved with legislative activities.

Steve has served as Co-chair the Government Relations Committee, tireless HSTA-R campaign worker at fundraisers and sign waving events for endorsed HSTA candidates. As the Big Island representative at State HARA meetings, he helped coordinate community “Talk Story” sessions with our legislators regarding retiree issues.

Stephen has been on the Hawaii District Council for more than eleven years. He was elected to the State HSTA-R Director for eight years. He has also served as State HSTA-R Delegate Assembly for 10 years, delegate to the State HSTA

Convention for an equal number of years, and to the NEA-R and NEA RA for 8 years.

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY;

Served as HEA Director

Served as Democratic Party Precinct Chair

Hawaii County Liquor Adjudication Board 2005-2009

Hawaii County Planning Commission 2009 – 2015

Hawaii County Aging/Disability Resource Center Advisory Board 2009 – present

Big Island HARA 2004 – on going

In his free time, he enjoys gardening and yard work, but spends most of his time on the computer, catching up on the news, and reading the newspaper. His passion is politics. He is a strong Democrat. He loves to talk to politicians and remains on very friendly terms with many of them.

HSTA-R Board of Directors Meeting

April 28, 2016

Director's Report – Lorraine Hora

- Brenda Shiroma, Benefit Plans Services, and Beverly Gotelli, HSTA-R Treasurer, distributed the Income Statement Spreadsheet covering expenditures from September, 2015 to March, 2016.
- Passed NBI 15-JJ for dues increase from \$45 to \$48 beginning September, 2016. This amount allows for even divisibility by 12 or 24 for monthly or bi-monthly dues deductions.
- Heard presentation by Barbara Ankerschmit of Anthology Group on the member survey conducted in January. Results will be presented at the Delegate Assembly and Action Plan Development will be conducted.
- Passed NBI 15-KK accepting the HSTA-R Election Guidelines.
- Received the report that EUTF Administrative Rule Changes include a definition of “child” to be 0 – 19 years of age. Older children must have a doctor's certification stating the person qualifies for coverage as a “dependent child”.
- Reminder – members with income over \$85,000 need to turn in their Medicare Part B information YEARLY to EUTF or else their refund will revert back to the base \$85,000.
- Gordon Murakami is now the HSTA representative on the EUTF Board of Trustees.



LIVE WIRE

By: Arleen Yoshimura

When I was young, I was told that everyone had the same “suitcase” each day of 24 hours. It’s interesting how much or how little people can pack into their suitcases.

In the early years, we thought we were invincible so many really didn’t care what we put in it, nor how we packed it. Nobody ever told us that what we did with our suitcases was cumulative.

Some packed wisely, filling theirs with healthy things, activities that engaged their minds & bodies, positive people and kept it clean & organized. Others just let whatever fill it, not even giving it much thought.

Think back about your past. How did you pack your suitcase? I should have packed mine with much more thought & care. In our old age, we either reap the rewards of a healthy, full life if we packed wisely or suffer the consequences of careless, foolish packing.

We cannot change the past, but as long as we’re alive, we can make a difference to our future. Make it happen...don’t let it happen. Try to make each day better. Pack your suitcase of life the best that you can. Also, help teach our future generations about this as early as possible so they can live rich, full lives. Good Luck & Safe Journey.



With Love & Humble Gratitude, Arleen

2016 HSTA Convention Report

Lorraine Hora

On April 16-17, Three hundred eighty one (381) delegates met at the Hawaii Convention Center. HSTA-Retired sent 12 delegates -- Lorraine Hora and Stephen Ono from Hawaii Island were part of the delegation.

There were 6 Bylaw Amendments, mainly clarifying the election process, procedure for handling challenges against the corporation, and specifying procedural rights of members receiving charges.

There were 18 Resolutions and 29 New Business Items presented. Many of them focused on funding for student transportation on educational trips, continued support of the mentor induction program for new hires and the testing of high school students with the ACT (American College Test) instead of the current SBA (Smarter Balance Assessment).

Friend of Youth Award went to Ted K. Takamiya from Molokai for volunteering his time to teach chess to students and to instruct them in the playing of musical instruments.

PONO Award was bestowed on Laverne Moore for her advocacy of children and social justice.

S.T.A.C.E.Y. Award (named for the late Stacy Nishina) recognized Logan Okita for teaching excellence.

New HSTA-R Members

Welcome to Claire S.K. Seu, Margaret A. Kelleher, Debra S. Okubo, and Joan M. Parker.
Best Wishes for an enjoyable summer and hope to see you at our activities beginning September.



Kim K. Springer
1722 Kaiāo Street
Hilo, HI 96720

stamp



King Kamehameha Celebration



Hawaii District Council 2014-2016

President - Cynthia Sallee-Brown

Vice President – Avis Mortemore

Secretary – Lorraine Hora

Treasurer – Lois Shimizu

Council At-Large –

- Bonnie Burke
- Arleen Yoshimura
- Myrna Watanabe
- Kim Springer
- Betty Ann Yoshimura
- Gary Kaku
- Ingrid Nishimoto

WHCC President –JoAnn Iwane

State Website:

<http://www.hstaretired.org/>

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