

# KAUAI CHATTER

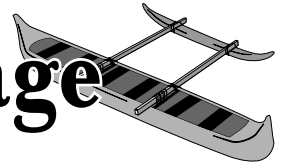


May 2017

A Publication of HSTA-Retired Kaua'i

• Kaua'i Chatter 6457 Ahele Drive, Kapa'a HI 96746

## President's Message



by Sandy Gage

As this 2016-2017 year ends I wish to send a big Mahalo to the HSTA-R Kaua'i Board of Directors and members. With your unselfish help our activities were successful. During this year our programs varied between providing information and tours. We visited the Hindu Monastery for a second time. We have watched its process of completion over the years. Kaua'i Community College Culinary program shared with us their specialties and allowed us to see our former students preparing for their future. Brenda Shiroma from VEBA explained our long term care program and helped us understand what the information meant on our forms. David Arakaki spoke to us and gave suggestions on what to do with our IRA accounts as we turn 70. In March we enjoyed our Meet and Greet at Keoki's in Poipu where new members socialized and interacted with other members.

Please be vigilant and read your mailings from HSTA-R "The Messenger", HSTA-R Kaua'i, "The Chatter", "Holomua" from the Employees Retirement System, and the EUTF. It is your responsibility to know what is happening that effects your retirement. HSTA-R Kaua'i sends out information as we receive it. This usually has already been printed in one of the named mailings. To be added to our email messaging, send your email address to Bev Gotelli at [bgotelli@msn.com](mailto:bgotelli@msn.com) to be added to her list.

An example from the latest "Holomua" is an article on Electronic Payment Options. Retirees who are responsible for all or a portion of their healthcare premiums can now pay their premiums through credit cards or electronic bank transfers. Contact EUTF at 586-7390 or [eutf@hawaii.gov](mailto:eutf@hawaii.gov) for help. These new payment options came about because your State Board and Retirement Issues members worked on your behalf last year with the State Senate and House to submit and pass the bill that allowed these options to happen. Thank your State Legislators and the Retirement Issues members (Bev Gotelli, Kevin Nunn, Sandy Gage) for their tireless efforts.

Your Kaua'i Board is in its planning stage for the 2017-2018 year. If you have suggestions for activities contact [sage808@gmail.com](mailto:sage808@gmail.com). We

appreciate your suggestions and if you are willing to help, let me know.

We continue to help "Kumu's Cupboard with their effort to provide teachers with free supplies and equipment for their classrooms. Our retirees are also at Salvation Army in Hanapepe to help serve lunch weekly. Are you interested in helping them?

Our newest Board member is Janice Bond. Welcome.

HSTA-R state membership is 5737. Kaua'i has 343 members.

A thought: Real education begins with the willingness to learn from mistakes.

## GOP On Top Volunteers Needed at Walmart



- Thursday, August 17, 2017
- Friday, August 18, 2017
- Saturday, August 19, 2017

Each shift will be three (3) hours.

6:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

*If you can help, please call Marge (808) 822-4021 or Stella (808) 332-7214 or 651-2692.*

Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

# 2017 HSTA-R 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Delegate Assembly

By the Kaua'i District Delegates

The HSTA-Retired 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Delegate Assembly was held on Friday, April 28, 2017 at the Honolulu Country Club. Can you imagine in two years HSTA-Retired will be 25? How quickly time flies. Ok, back to what were highlights of the Assembly.

The delegates elected to the Assembly represent the membership from each District. We have four Districts State wide. Kaua'i had delegates, the District President and two State Board members who reside on Kaua'i.

The Delegation approved the 2017-18 Budget which was published in The Messenger earlier this year. HSTA-R is working on a budget

- Sandy receiving award from Justin Wong



of \$311,100.00 for over 5,000 members. Of this about a third of it comes back to the districts.

We also had four By-law amendments which were housekeeping measures. This cleaned up the language of our current by laws. There was one Resolution. Resolutions are belief statements and usually require an action. The maker did not know if the Resolution would be adopted and did not write a New Business Item for action to be taken. The title of the resolution is, "Attendance at State and National Conventions."

The maker felt that the same people who run for these conventions are elected year after year. They felt this would benefit others who run and are not elected. The resolution was adopted and an action will be worked on for the next Delegate Assembly.

Kaua'i District has always submitted a binder for the District of the Year. The binder includes pictures from all activities, copies of The Chatter, minutes and financial statements of the district. It is judged by a panel selected by the State President.

We are happy to announce Kaua'i District came home with second place, through the hard work of Stella Shimatsu who worked diligently to put the binder together.

We tied with Hawai'i District for the Membership Award and through the great editor-in-chief, James Yamamoto, Kaua'i District received first place in communication. We are so proud of all of you for what you do to make Kaua'i District so special.

- Bev Gotelli, Jean Dobashi, Stella shimatsu, Sandy Gage, Deborah Gunning, Bonnie Kakinami, Joyce Silva, Kevin Nunn at the Delegate Assembly

- Congratulations to Justin Wong, the 2017 recipient of the Distinguished Service Award



## HSTA-R Chatter News from the Phone Tree Chair

Mahalo to all the members who are callers on the phone tree for this past year.

Hopefully, you will be able to help out the coming year 2017-2018. The phone tree needs more callers (approximately 3 times a year).

Please volunteer your service! Welcome, Jewel Ramelb, who will be added to the list for the coming year.

*Joyce A. Silva*

(808) 332-0412 • [ajsilva@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:ajsilva@hawaii.rr.com)

## HSTA-R Kaua'i Annual Meeting



*January 24, 2017 HGEA Office*



*David Arakaki, Financial Planner*





# Meet & Greet

March 14, 2017 at Keoki's



• Brenda Shiroma, VEBA Trust

# Bev & Kev Do Dallas!

Bev Gotelli and Kevin Nunn were fortunate to attend the 2017 NEA Organizing Conference in Dallas with five other Hawai'i delegates from March 20<sup>th</sup> through the 24<sup>th</sup>. It was Kevin's first opportunity to attend an NEA conference as a retiree. Other delegates included HSTA-R President Vaughn Tokashiki, NEA-R Liaison Justin Wong, Vice Presidents Jeanne Fukuoka and Linda Tavares, Secretary Glenn Fernandez and Mae Kishimoto of Oahu. Mae and Kevin were the "new kids on the block," as first-time attendees.

The theme of the conference was "Unite, Inspire, Lead: Still Doing It." Of the several workshops offered over Tuesday and Wednesday, Kevin attended "NEA Retired Grants" and "The In's and Out's of Continuous Membership." He says the grant application process seemed too time-consuming, and the issue of continuous membership turned out to have already been "asked and answered" by the more experienced members of the delegation. The answer was "No!"

Kevin brought back a fact sheet distributed by the Alliance for Retired Americans. "Decoding Deceptive Health Care Promises" translates common "buzz words" used to disguise proposed Medicare revisions, e.g., coupons masquerading as premium support. Be alert to the language of politics!

Bev did some dedicated shopping in the after hours, including a visit to Trader Joe's.

Waylaid by a cold, Kevin spent most of the evenings resting in his room. After the conference, he made up for it with a visit to his father in Florida and granddaughter in San Diego.



## Kokua Kitchen

ON-GOING • Hanapepe Salvation Army  
KOKUA KITCHEN every 3rd and 4th  
Wednesday. Reporting Time is @ 10:30 am.  
POC is Sue Kali.

### POCs from the schools:

Eleele School _____	Hazel Fujimoto
Kalaheo School _____	Stella Shimatsu
Kapaa Elementary School _____	Rona Sakai
Kauai High School _____	Jean Dobashi
Kekaha School _____	Brenda Denny
Waimea Canyon School _____	Patsy Nitta
Waimea High School _____	Gloria Matsuba

 **Kokua Kitchen Needs Your Help!**

*Have a Heart, Lend a Hand*

## Go Green! By Beverly Gotelli

Do you like having less paper in your life? If so, join us in going green with The Chatter. It's very simple email Beverly Gotelli at [bgotelli@msn.com](mailto:bgotelli@msn.com) and you will start receiving The Chatter electronically with the next copy.

We have over 80 members who are currently receiving The Chatter electronically. Thank you for your continued support in helping us be environmentally friendly.

## Current Events! By Beverly Gotelli

HSTA-R Kaua'i tries to keep our members updated on current events and activities that are of interest to retirees. We have a list that was started some years ago and use this as a means of getting you updated information.

If you would like to be on this list please email Beverly Gotelli at [bgotelli@msn.com](mailto:bgotelli@msn.com).

What is sent: reminders of upcoming HSTA-R events, Prescription drug take back and fun activities. Sometimes things happen after the published newsletter and this means is used. We hope you'll consider being on our mailing list.

## Update Contact Information

Have you recently changed your phone number, disconnected your land line, or changed your email address? If this is you, please let us know of these changes. HSTA-R attempts to keep its contact information up to date. We can't do that without your help. So please help us out when you make a change. Contact Sandra Gage at [sgage808@gmail.com](mailto:sgage808@gmail.com) or 332-8390.

Thank you!

HSTA-Retired – Kaua’I District Council

2016-2017

President\_\_\_SandyGage

V-President\_\_Crucita Todd

Secretary\_\_\_Debbie Gunning

Treasurer\_\_\_Bonnie Kakinami

Council\_\_\_\_\_Beverly Gotelli

Sue Kali

Marjorie Nakashima

James Yamamoto

Stella Shimatsu

Joyce Silva

Barbara Natland

Kevin Nunn



- HSTA Institute Day helpers