



# The Guardian

June 2016, Issue III

2016-2017

## Calendar of Events

Please mark these dates down in your calendar.

August 22, 2016: Meet and Greet for new members, Pearl Country Club

October 17, 2016: General Membership Meeting, Hawaii Okinawa Center

February 13, 2017: HSTA Oahu Institute Day

February 20, 2017: General Membership Meeting, Waialae Country Club

March 13, 2017: Meeting and Greet for new members, Windward location TBA

April 28, 2017: Delegate Assembly, Honolulu Country Club



## President's Message

It's summer already. Where did all the time go?

This past year, your council responding to members' request moved one of our General Membership Meetings to the Okinawa Center in the Leeward area. This move was met with positive comments from Leeward members who liked the new location. We also held our March Meet and Greet meeting at the Bay View Country Club in Kaneohe. This was planned to encourage our Windward members to become involved.

Through the efforts of Kathy Tanaka we continued our service efforts by participating in the Hawaii Pacific Health Conferences, Salvation Army Angel Tree Project, Hawaii Bar Association, Hawaii Theater for Youth and ended the year with the Arthritis Walk. Involvement in these activities has increased the visibility of HSTA-R as an active partner in the community.

In conjunction with other senior organizations, HSTA-R has successfully lobbied to improve senior care and benefits. Through our lobbying efforts the legislature passed a law directing the state to automatically deduct health payments from those retirees who are required to pay a portion of the health premiums. HSTA-R efforts also resulted in an increase in VEBA dental benefits to \$2000.00 per year.

The year closed with Leadership training. The three sessions led by Sharon Mahoe and Jane Motokawa sharpened our communication, decision making and team building skills which should make us a stronger, more effective team for next year.

With all that has happened this year, I am looking forward to next year when we can further connect and serve you.

Wishing you an exceptional summer,

Joanne R. Ing, HSTA-R Oahu District President

# A Walk to Remember



Kathy Tanaka, Community Service Chair



On May 22, 2016 HSTA-R Oahu Council Members with friends and family participated in the annual Arthritis Walk for a Cure held on the University of Hawaii campus. Fun, food, and genuine friendship was shared and enjoyed by all in attendance. Thanks to the hard work and the support of the HSTA-R family the Oahu Council was able to enlist 87 participants and raise \$3691.00.

Our next community service project will be with Leo DaQuioag and his Music for Life Foundation Inc. At our October 17, 2016 General Meeting at the Okinawa Center, Leo DaQuioag will be our guest speaker and will explain the goals of his foundation.

HSTA-R's community service program has provided me, the opportunity to feel empowered to make changes in our communities to make them more productive, to feel enriched through new friendships and knowledge, and perhaps most importantly to feel productive and a sense of accomplishment. I am retired but I can still be a contributing member.

## WHY I SERVE

Susan Hagiwara, Secretary

The transition to HSTA-Retired seemed so natural a year after retiring in 2007. Having served on various levels as an active teacher, I wanted to stay informed and involved with the retiree issues of which are now important to me. The members of the HSTA-R Oahu Council are GREAT to work with! Each council member brings many, many years of teaching and association experiences. We are continually broadening our knowledge through the community opportunities that Oahu District participates in, the general membership meetings and occasional presentations at our monthly council meetings. Service gives me purpose. In retirement, I am keeping active, having fun and working alongside a wonderful group of retiree friends!



### Participants in Leadership training:

**top row**--Twylla Dawn Steer, Robin Hermance, Linda Tavares, Arlene Aranita, Bob Hu, Susan Hagiwara, Norma Villarmia, Clarice Roby, Marianne Busher, Jeanne Fukuoka, Lanny Busher, Odetta Fujimori **bottom row**--Donna Higashi, Sha Murata, Phyllis Ida, Sharon Mahoe, June Motokawa, Carol Nitta, Kathy Tanaka, Beverly Matsuo, Joanne Ing  
missing: Tom Aiken and Geri Yamashita

## **Elections Mahalo!**

Sandra Low and Clarice Roby, Elections co-chairs

Aloha and mahalo to all our volunteers who came to help with stuffing envelopes and tallying the ballots for all our elections. The election of officers for Oahu District was held at the General Membership Meeting on February 9, 2016. These officers were elected by acclamation for two-year terms: President, Joanne Ing; Vice-President, Phyllis Ida; Secretary, Susan Hagiwara; Treasurer, Clarice Roby; and for the Oahu District Council, Arlene Arinata, Jeannie Fukuoka, Carol Nitta, and Kathy Tanaka.

The election of State officers was held at the Honolulu Country Club at the Delegate Assembly on April 29, 2016. These officers were elected by acclamation for two-year terms: President, Vaughn Tokashiki; 1st Vice-President, Yvonne "Linda" Tavares; 2nd Vice-President, Jeanne Fukuoka; Secretary, Glenn Fernandez; Treasurer, Beverly Gotelli; and Board of Directors At-Large, Jean Dobashi and Carol Nitta.

If you would like to participate in the 2017 elections, be on the lookout for the nomination forms in the January issue of the Guardian.

Again, mahalo to all participants and volunteers!

Elections Committee

## **News You Can Use! ! ! !**

By Linda Tavares, Membership

I would like to wish all you retirees a very happy summer...but I can't... because summer is all year round for us.

As an HSTA-R and NEA member, you have many discounts available as part of your membership. HSTA will send out special alerts on discounts for those retired members who have given us their email addresses. Alerts like movie discount tickets, airline specials, hotels, restaurants, and many many more. I don't know about the restaurants. I try to avoid things that make me fat...like scales, mirrors, and photographs.

If you are planning to travel this year, go where the airfare bargains are. Most people first choose a vacation destination and the dates they would like to travel, and then shop for the best available price on airline tickets. Rather than choose a particular destination and dates, let the airfare deals play a role in determining when and where you travel. Use discount travel sites such as Kayah.com (explore tool located in Kayah's More menu). You can also use AirGorilla.com and HipMunk.com to find low fares to appealing destinations. I don't know about you...but if life's a journey, mine is between the fridge and the computer.

When calling the HSTA-R direct message line (840-2258) please speak slowly, spell your first and last name, leave your message and phone number, and someone will return your call. The phone is answered Monday thru Friday.

Here is a health tip! If you can't afford a doctor, go to an airport...you'll get a Free x-ray and a breast exam, and if you mention Al Qaeda, you'll get a Free colonoscopy.



OAHU DISTRICT  
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Phone: 808-840-2258

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

**OFFICERS:** Joanne Ing, President; Phyllis Ida, Vice-President; Susan Hagiwara, Secretary ; Clarice Roby, Treasurer

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Tom Aiken, Arlene Aranita, Jeanne Fukuoka, Beverly Matsuo, Linda Mew, Carol Nitta, Geraldine Yamashita, Kathy Tanaka

**Council meetings** usually held first Monday of each month, 9:00 a.m., at 1200 Ala Kapuna St. All members are welcome to attend. To receive the agenda by email, call 840-2258; leave name and email address.

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**Mahalo to the officers:** VP Arlene Aranita, who planned and coordinated all the membership meetings, Secretary Susan Hagiwara, who kept accurate records and did all the extras to make your president look good, Treasurer Charlis Lee who paid the bills and special recognition to Clarice Roby who used the computer to make operations more efficient and always gave more than expected. **Kudos to council members:** Tom Aitkin, Rose Shin, Wynnie Hee (Communications); Beverly/ Hitoshi Matsuo, Bob Hu, Geri Yamashita, Linda Yuen, (Aloha); Linda Mew (Windward project) Alice Kotake (Awards); Linda Tavares, Sha Murata, Jeanne Fukuoka (Membership); Kathy Tanaka, Robin Hermance (Service); Carol Nitta. Lanny /Marianne Busher, Norma Villarmia, Phyllis Ida, Darlene Pang (Government Relations); Sandra Low, Clarice Roby (Elections); and Mae Kishimoto (EUTF) who have worked hard to earn for Oahu the distinction of being the HSTA-R District of the Year.

Want to get more frequent communications from us?

Rose Shin, communications committee member

Please provide us with your email address. You will get this newsletter and opportunities for community service activities and other notifications by email. **Reply to whomever is listed in the email** and not to HSTA-R Oahu. Be sure to let us know if you change your email address or your phone number. Call 840-2258. You can also visit the website of the Oahu District by using this address: <http://www.hstaretired.org/oahu.php>