## Save these dates...

### General Membership Meetings:

**Hawaii Chapter – Wed, June 27, 2012**
**Kauai Chapter – Mon, June 25, 2012**
**Maui Chapter - Thurs, June 7, 2012**
**Oahu Chapter – Thurs, June 28, 2012**

### Holiday Parties:

**Hawaii Chapter – Sat, January 12, 2013**
**Kauai Chapter – Thurs, December 6, 2012**
**Maui Chapter – Fri, December 7, 2012**
**Oahu Chapter – Wed, December 12, 2012**

## Brain Teaser: WORD FIND FUN

Have you registered to vote? Did you sign up for absentee ballots? Political Action is here and volunteers are always welcomed!

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Absentee | Ballots | Campaign | Candidate |
| Canvass | Congressional | Democrat | District |
| Election | Endorsement | Fundraiser | General |
| Phone Bank | Political Action | Politics | Precinct |
| Primary | Races | Reapportionment | Register |
| Republican | Senatorial | Signwave | Speech |
| Volunteer | Vote | | |

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| O | R | D | I | R | O | P | O | O | D | P | J | Y | A | T | M | P | N |
| P | H | O | N | E | B | A | N | K | E | O | H | L | S | P | A | R | V |
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| R | I | P | O | L | I | T | I | C | A | L | A | C | T | I | O | N | P |

**Fun Fact:** It takes 43 muscles to frown and only 17 muscles to smile!


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## Important EUTF Update: Pharmacy Benefit Manager

### FOR NON-MEDICARE RETIREES:

CVS Caremark (CVS) assumed management of the EUTF pharmacy benefits program effective May 1, 2012 for pre-Medicare retirees. CVS replaces informedRx and HMSA/Medco as the pharmacy benefit manager. By now you should have received your ID card from CVS. You should dispose of your old informedRx and HMSA/Medco ID cards immediately and only use your CVS ID card. If you have not received your CVS ID card or if you are having any problems with your prescriptions, please contact CVS toll free at 1-855-801-8263 or go to www.caremark.com.

### FOR MEDICARE RETIREES:

CVS Caremark (CVS) will be taking over as the pharmacy benefit manager for EUTF Medicare retirees effective July 1, 2012. You should be receiving more information prior to July 1, 2012 from Silver Script, the CVS Subsidiary which administers the Medicare D plan.

**For more information, please contact the EUTF at 586-7390 (on Oahu), 1-800-295-0089 (toll-free) or visit their website at www.eutf.hawaii.gov.**


RETIREES UNIT

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RETIREES UNIT

May - June 2012

# Ho`olaha

PUBLICATION OF THE RETIRED PEOPLE

VOL XXXV No III


## A message from the Retirees Unit President

***Let's get out the vote and support HGEA's endorsed candidates!*** We retirees need to work especially hard this election to get people out to vote. If each one of us can convince 10 friends or family members to vote and support our endorsed candidates, and those 10 contact 10 others, Hawaii will do a lot better than the dismal 40% voter turnout that we have been seeing in past elections. In fact, some of our endorsed candidates have lost their races due to poor voter turnout.

There are no more excuses not to vote. For those who are disabled or unable to get transportation to a polling location, permanent absentee ballots are now available so you can vote by mail. This might also be a good option for those that are uncertain of their polling location due to redistricting. Permanent Absentee Application Forms can be picked up at your local HGEA office or you can also contact any HGEA staff. You can distribute them to your family & friends to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to vote!

One way or another, let's get out the vote, and take part in the HGEA political process - once you get involved, you will be hooked!

~ *Ruth Walker*

## Be a PEOPLE hero!

Now's your chance to make a difference! Become a PEOPLE MVP and contribute to the HGEA/AFSCME political action fund.

AFSCME PEOPLE

PEOPLE (Public Employees Organized for Political and Legislative Equality) works for YOU and is funded by voluntary contributions from our membership. By donating, HGEA will have a louder voice at the legislature and in Congress – especially about bills that affect your healthcare, pension and retiree rights. Please consider donating $8.40 once a month to become a PEOPLE MVP. For more information, please contact Ann Ebesuno at aebesuno@hgea.org or 935-6841.

# Meet Retirees Unit Hawaii Board Director
# Aileen Lum

In an effort to introduce the Retirees Unit Board members to our membership, this month we would like to feature Hawaii Board Director **Aileen Lum**.

Aileen worked for the Hawaii State Judiciary on the Big Island, and as an active HGEA member, she served as a Unit 13 steward, Unit 13 Hawaii Island Officer, Excluded Unit Hawaii Island President and member of the Excluded Unit State Board. After retiring in 2002, Aileen has been active with the Retirees Unit on Hawaii Island, serving as Chapter Vice-President, State Director and currently Chapter President.

Aileen helping with a Missing Children ID booth.

Aileen understands the importance of HGEA, even in retirement, because she knows her benefits as a retiree could very easily be taken away. She believes that retirees need to actively take part in political action activities and support our endorsed candidates, as this is the key to continuing to receive the benefits we all worked so hard for. Thank you, Aileen, for your continued hard work and dedication to HGEA and the Retirees Unit!

# Maui Chapter News

Submitted by: Ricardo Medina

Approximately 30 retirees came to listen to Congresswoman Mazie Hirono on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 and heard a very positive, upbeat candidate explain her concern about preserving and improving Medicare while supporting payroll deductions for Social Security to continue beyond the present cap. HGEA has endorsed Mazie Hirono, Colleen Hanabusa and Mufi Hannemann.

The next General Membership meeting will be on Thursday, June 7, 2012 at the UPW Hall beginning at 9:00 a.m. Retirees Unit Administrator Mahie Trask will provide a legislative wrap-up, current information on EUTF and will be available to answer any questions.

On Tuesday, June 12, 2012, please come and support Mazie Hirono in a joint forum with Ed Case, sponsored by AARP. Tickets will be available from June 5. Please call the Maui HGEA office at 244-5508 for more information.

In order to meet our Retirees Unit goals, the chapter discussed plans for an excursion to Lahaina to meet with West Maui retirees. MEO will provide transportation and the date is set for Thursday, September 20, 2012. The agenda includes shopping at Lahaina Cannery. Details of the excursion will be finalized at the General Membership meeting on Thursday, June 7. Call the HGEA office at 244-5508 for information and to signup.

## Cloud Water Tea Gardens & Farm Excursion (Kauai)

Michelle Love explains the planting process to the group.

The group takes a quick break while touring the tea garden.

## THE 21ST BIENNIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

took place on May 9 - 12, 2012 at the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel on the Kohala Coast (Big Island). State Retirees Unit President Ruth Walker and Chapter Presidents Aileen Lum, Ricardo Medina, Paul Matsuo and Betty Matsumura attended the convention. A big mahalo to all who helped with coordination!

# Oahu Chapter News

Submitted by: Paul Matsuo

The Oahu Chapter has begun to organize for the upcoming new biennial term. There will be four quarterly general membership meetings (usually scheduled for the third Thursday of the month). Also scheduled will be Line Dancing (second and fourth Wednesdays of each month), Bingo, and Movie Day (to be announced later). The next General Membership meeting will be on June 28, 2012 at 9:00 a.m., HGEA meeting hall.

**Upcoming Oahu Activities:**
Bingo will be on Wednesday, May 30, 2012, HGEA 1st floor at 9:00 a.m. Refreshments will be served. Donations for bingo prizes are being accepted. Call Elmer Yuen at 734-4384 if you have any questions or if you would like to donate prizes.

For the Chapter's Excursion program, the Board is meeting with representatives from Regal Travel to explore potential excursions for 2012-2013.

Look for a full listing of Oahu Chapter activities and functions in future issues of the Ho'olaha.

### Oahu Chapter's Standing Committee Chairs

*Program Committee Chairperson*
**Vice President Ethel Shintaku**
*Membership Committee Chairperson*
**Ethel Yamane**
*Finance Committee Chairperson*
**Treasurer Sam Yong**
*Legislative/Political Action Committee Chairperson*
**Lorraine Tobin**
*Community Action Committee Chairperson*
**Richard Fujimoto**
*Social and Recreation Committee Chairperson*
**Sam Yong**

*Sub-Committee Chairs:*
*Line Dancing* - **Sam Yong**
*Movie Day* - **Muriel Masumura**
*Bingo* - **Elmer Yuen**
*Excursion* - **Arlene Shimokawa**

### Oahu Chapter's Adhoc Committee Chairs

*Outreach/Recruitment Committee Chairperson*
**Ethel Fleming**
*Chapter Christmas Party Chairperson*
**Muriel Masumura**
*Member Benefits Committee Chairperson*
**Bob Uyeda**

*Sub-Committee Chairs:*
*Reception/Sign-in Chairperson*
**Ethel Yamane / Ethel Shintaku**
*Facilities/Setup Chairperson*
**John Wadahara / Bob Matsunaka**
*Refreshments/Meals Chairperson*
**Norma Kashinoki**
*Phone Tree Chairperson*
**Betty Tsukiyama**
*Chapter Phone Tree Chairperson*
**Jan Nakata**

# Hawaii Chapter News

Submitted by: Aileen Lum

On Saturday, April 14, 2012, nine retirees assisted the Community Action Committee with setting up the Keaau High School field for a Special Olympics event. These "early-risers" worked from 6:00 - 8:00 a.m. in order to get everything ready. We thank them for their time and energy!

On Saturday, April 21, 2012, a group of six retirees met at the Sanga Hall in Hilo to assist the Prosecutor's Office with the Keiki I.D. Kit program. The program is run by the "Missing Child Center-Hawaii," under the Department of the Attorney General. We were happy to see so many children get keiki IDs, but we also hope their IDs will never be needed.

On Thursday, April 26, more than 10 retirees assisted with a fundraiser for Mufi Hannemann held at Aunty Sally's Luau Hale. Thank you to those who attended! This is just the beginning of the political season and we hope to have even more retirees assisting with other fundraisers coming up in the near future.

The next General Membership meeting will be on Wednesday, June 27, 2012 at the Hilo HGEA office.

And finally, after all the hard work throughout the month of April, a group of nine retirees attended the West Hawaii Family Picnic at Kahaluu Beach Park in Kona. It was held on Saturday, April 28 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Everyone enjoyed the fun, fellowship, good food, ono pupus, gift certificates and lots of Bingo prizes!

Vernon and Susan Wong

Roy Soto

Ruth Walker, Janet Fujimoto and Shigeko Kiyojima

Roy Soto & Patsy Adachi

Freida Owens

# Kauai Chapter News

Submitted by: Betty Matsumura

On Friday, April 20, 2012, 28 Kauai retirees enjoyed a beautiful excursion to the lush North Shore of Kauai, to take a tour of the Cloud Water Tea Gardens and Farm. Michelle Love, owner of the Gardens, provided an excellent walking tour explaining the propagation, planting and harvesting of the tea and offered samples of the different teas grown on her farm.

On May 7, 2012, retirees enjoyed hot dogs and chips at an HGEA Movie Day showing of "Mao's Last Dance."

Our next General Membership meeting for all retired members will be held on Monday, June 25, 2012 at the HGEA Office starting at 9:30 a.m. The Kauai Legislators will be our guest speakers. Lunch will be provided for $5.00. Please call the HGEA Office at 245-6751 to sign-up.