



Hawaii Government Employees Association
 AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO
 P.O. Box 2930
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RETIREES UNIT

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Retirees Unit Island Chapters at the 24th Biennial Assembly. Pictured 1) Hawaii Island Division, 2) Kauai Island Division, 3) Oahu Island Division, 4) Maui Island Division.

WORDFIND

once word movie titles

- Airplane
- Annie
- Avatar
- Bambi
- Braveheart
- Camelot
- Casablanca
- Cinderella
- Dumbo
- Evita
- Frozen
- Ghandi
- Ghost
- Gladiator
- Godfather
- Grease
- Halloween
- Heat
- Jaws
- Mulan
- Rocky
- Scarface
- Spacejam
- Tarzan
- Titanic
- Tootsie
- Twister
- Waterworld

C P U U A Q T K U W T F L X Q W H I A
 P W E N M C R X B V W Q K P N W A T I
 A Y N R A T A V A N E Z O R F F L I R
 G I H Q P Z E S A X H M M N B D L T P
 E N J E C X H I I R B R W M T U O A L
 U Z T L E I E K O D R V W Z J M W N A
 C P S V J D V T R V N H R C M B E I N
 R I I N V C A S A B L A N C A O E C E
 N T N T A I R S W A J O H V K C N T K
 A T G D D L B U K Y L J U G A W O M A
 I G A A E R U A W K I H P F D O L N X
 L B L R C R F M E C T G R M T Q O T J
 A G M N Z W E T F O W A R S H E F S S
 Q T V A P A L L L R C W I E L P S O M
 K H T D B S N E L S O E P E A L X H K
 H K E J I B M G K A B Q Z L H S D G H
 S E L U I A G O D F A T H E R F E V Q
 Y V A T C X S P A C E J A M P U I T I
 W A T E R W O R L D E T R E T S I W T

HO'OLAHA

PUBLICATION OF THE RETIRED PEOPLE

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HO`OLAHA

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VOLUME 44 NO 3

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Walker writes ...



As I reflect upon the past couple of years, I shall always remember the passion and hard work of HGEA retirees who participate in chapter activities and in our community action projects. I shall always treasure these memories.

This past year was beyond belief because we were confronted by many once in a lifetime events. We faced and were threatened by the coronavirus pandemic; we were mandated to mask, wash hands and social distance. We faced Trump's attempt to seek re-election for president. Fortunately, our democracy survived when Trump was defeated and Joe Biden was elected president.

However, during Trump's administration we came unbelievably close to his destroying our Republic.

I kept hearing complaints about having to shelter in place and being restricted from venturing outside our homes, but none of our retirees complained, they acted. Retirees took up new hobbies, did more sewing (many created masks), read, set up home offices, bonded with family and learned to use Zoom for meetings.

With the three and now more vaccines being made available to us, and the pace at which we are being vaccinated, we should be able to resume some sense of "new" normal, meaning masking and maintaining social distancing may continue to be enforced.

My best wishes to the incoming officers. I know they will be up to all challenges.

Thank you again for your support during the past years. Thank you also to the State Board members, to Mahie and Tammy, and to HGEA Executive Director Randy Perreira.

ELF'S CORNER

BY PRESIDENT ETHEL L. FLEMING



On June 28, 2021, Retiree delegates from all Chapters attended the 24th Biennial Assembly. They were invited as members who actively cared about and participated in numerous HGEA activities during the past two years. Mahalo Nui for the cooperation and hard work of the HGEA staff and retiree members from all chapters who contributed their energy and talents to this event. It was a challenge to coordinate all the island chapters to feel as one group, as we were seated separately, yet connected electronically. We could hear and see our delegates. The ocean kept us distanced yet brought us together by a sense of belonging to a group that share similar values and beliefs.

First in the order of business was the election of new Retiree State officers for the 2021-2023 term. They represent each of the chapters. After the lunch break, delegates considered and voted on the merits of a couple of proposed changes to the Bylaws of the Retirees Unit. These were defeated and not adopted.

Several members were inspired to state that the best part of this event was the speech from the Retirees Administrator, Mahie Trask. It reminded all present of why HGEA membership is important to State and County Retirees. Many of our benefits were earned from members working together over the years to focus on fairness and recognition of the value of employees who served the public in a myriad of jobs. The emphasis has always been on what's best for us all, and not on individual rewards.

Let's contact others and grow our membership by inviting County and State government retirees to join us in our activities. Actively engage their retired spouses to become associate members. Invite the "quiet" ones to be committee members to help plan the different activities. New people can bring vigor and stimulate ideas. Together, this new leadership team of Retiree State officers who represent all the chapters reinforces the feeling of working together toward our goals: strength and unity.

KUPUNA FALL PREVENTION TRAINING

Steve Glanstein and his team from Kupuna Aikido will be holding two classes of eight-week sessions regarding falling prevention and falling safety. The first session is tentatively scheduled to run every Tuesday beginning August 31, 2021 through September 28, 2021 in the Ahuimanu area. The second session will be every Wednesday beginning September 29, 2021 through November 17, 2021 in the Liliha Area. Both sessions will start at 9:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

The cost is \$50 per eight-week session. You must be fully vaccinated, have the CDC card at least 14 days prior and must register and sign a waiver.

Please contact Tammy at 543-0054 or email at ttanouye@hgea.org for more information and to register.

CHAPTER NEWS: You must continue to wear your mask at all HGEA functions.

KAUAI CHAPTER: As of this writing, Kauai is about to move to Tier 5. Please plan for our September 13 Chapter meeting (\$5 lunch) to be an in-person meeting at the HGEA office at 9:00 a.m. A Christmas luncheon on December 6 is still on my wish list. If a venue opens to be able to hold our numbers, we will hold a luncheon. It may not be as elaborate as our last party, but at least we can get together and share a meal. We would need you to RSVP for both events. Please email me (Timmy) at tlalbaosr@hawaiiantel.net of your intention to attend. I will use your email for last minute information.

MAUI CHAPTER: As your new President for 2021-2023 term, I am very much interested to know your ideas on what you would like to see, hear and do at the general membership meetings besides reports. Our plan is to hold in-person meetings beginning on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 9 a.m. You must RSVP your attendance so that we can maintain our gathering counts and provide a lunch. Please email me (Steve) at stplsd69@yahoo.com so that I can begin a contact list or call the Maui office at 244-5508. The Secretary position is vacant. Please email me if you are interested, the board will decide by the September meeting. The Christmas Party is being planned for December 14, 2021. Location, TBD.

HAWAII CHAPTER: In-person meetings and activities with the start of the new board term. The General membership meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2021 at 9 a.m. at the HGEA hall. Please email your RSVP to etogashi@hawaii.rr.com or call HGEA at 935-6841.

- American Heart & Stroke Virtual Walk: August 7, 2021, HGEA all unit team. Donate at www.hiheartwalk.org or check payable to American HeartWalk Hilo and drop off at HGEA office.
- Alzheimer's Walk Fundraiser: September 18, 2021, join all units team. Drop off donation payable to Alzheimer's Association Hilo or online at HiloAlzheimersWalk2021.
- Thank you to everyone that donated to the Hilo BLOOD BANK DRIVE on May 18-29, 2021. Melissa Morgan, Donor Recruitment Account Manager extends her gratitude for our participation.

OAHU CHAPTER: All activities will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the HGEA 1st floor hall unless otherwise stated.

- Ukulele, August 4 & 18, 2021 and September 1 & 15, 2021 and October 6 & 20, 2021
 - Bingo, August 9, 2021 and September 20, 2021 and October 4, 2021 (Zoom and in-person)
 - Outreach, August 10, 2021
 - Line Dancing, August 11 & 25, 2021 and September 8 & 22, 2021 and October 13, & 27, 2021
 - Crochet, August 26, 2021 and September 30, 2021 and October 28, 2021
 - State Board meeting, September 2, 2021
 - Chapter Board meeting, September 9, 2021
 - General Membership meeting, September 16, 2021
- *Please RSVP to volkswagonbug102@cs.com or call HGEA at 543-0054.*

MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT!

LYNN WILKINS FOR EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM TRUSTEE!



Lynne Wilkens has all of the right qualities to serve in the Teacher Seat for the State of Hawaii Employees' Retirement System. She has served in leadership roles with the University of Hawaii Cancer Center for the past 33 years and successfully led UHPA through difficult challenges. Over a five-year period, she tirelessly served as a Negotiating Team Member, Treasurer, and Board President. Your vote for Lynne will make sure the concerns of Hawaii's employees are heard!

At their June 26, 2021 meeting, the HGEA State Board of Directors unanimously endorsed Lynn Wilkens.

Congratulations, 2021 – 2023 STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

OFFICERS

President: Ethel Fleming, Oahu

Vice President: Evelyn Togashi, Hawaii

Secretary: Steve Criss, Maui

Treasurer: Timothy Albao, Kauai

Immediate Past President: Ruth Walker

DIRECTORS:

- Tommy Oi, Kauai
- Audrey Aki, Oahu
- Susan Goya, Oahu
- Ava Kridler, Oahu
- Muriel Masumura, Oahu
- Paul Matsuo, Oahu
- Arlene Shimokawa, Oahu
- Denny Schwind, Maui
- Elsie Iida, Hawaii
- Aileen Obina, Hawaii



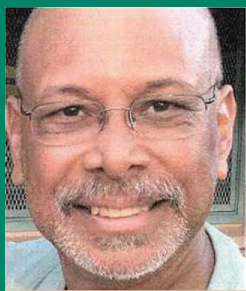
Ethel Fleming, President

After graduating from UH Manoa, Ethel joined the Peace Corps and served in Kosrae, Micronesia for two years. Returning to Oahu, she worked for the C&C of Honolulu as a Recreation Leader, and then as a Social Worker for the State of Hawaii. She was awarded a Federal grant to achieve her MSW while with the Dept. of Human Services. After 40 years, she retired in 1999, and joined the HGEA Retirees Unit. She was elected an Oahu Chapter Director and President, and as a State Director and State Secretary. She was asked to initiate the Outreach Program for Oahu members who found it difficult to attend meetings in Honolulu. The program was well received and was also adopted by our Chapters with the goal of engaging more members in our HGEA/AFSCME issues and activities. In the process, we made more friends, and forged closer bonds. Ethel can face a challenge, and she looks forward to working with and for you, as well as sharing fun times.



Evelyn Togashi, Vice President

Evelyn has worked for the City and County of Honolulu and the County of Hawaii's Department of Parks and Recreation for 32 years from June 1968 to October 31, 2000. She served as Chairperson on the Publicity/Historian Committee, July 1, 2007-June 30, 2019 contributing photos and news articles to the HGEA Retirees publication Ho'olaha, HGEA Retirees Calendar and the Hawaii Tribune Herald, Hawaii Island daily newspaper. She has been the Hawaii Retirees Board Secretary, July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2019. She is the President for the Hawaii Retirees Board July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021. She has been elected President for the new biennial term, July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023. Evelyn has spent her retirement enjoying her son, daughter, four grandchildren, community volunteering at HGEA, Department of Parks and Recreation, and Read To Me International.



Steve Criss, Secretary

Steve retired in 2014 having worked at the Waihe'e School as the School Food Service Manager and also Maui High School. He has served as an HGEA Unit 2 Steward, Chair and Negotiator. Since 1988 he has been involved with PAC, the Kendall Scholarship, and Community Action and Recreation. Over the years, he has been appointed to committees such as PEOPLE, Elections, Bylaws and Resolutions etc. Steve was the Maui Chapter President July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2019. He will be serving as President effective July 1, 2021. He graduated from the UH Kapiolani Community College AS Food Service Management/Culinary Arts, and Bad Kreuznach American High School, West Germany. In the private sector, he has worked as Executive Chef and in other positions for various restaurants.



Timmy Albao, Treasurer

After over 30 years of service, Timmy retired in 2002 from the Department of Finance, County of Kauai. He retired in 1989 from the Hawaii Air National Guard after over 22 years of service. He has served on the PAC, Kendall Scholarship and Recreation Committees (Recreation Coordinator for Kauai). Timmy is the longest serving State President of the Excluded Unit of HGEA. After retiring, he served in the Kauai Retiree Chapter as Treasurer, Vice President and currently the President. He is also a director on the state board while serving in those Kauai positions.