

CHAPTER NEWS:

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR ISLAND DIVISION OFFICE TO RSVP AND MAKE SURE ACTIVITIES HAVE NOT BEEN CANCELLED OR RESCHEDULED.

HAWAII CHAPTER:

- July 14: Relay For Life. Contact E. Iida to purchase bags and shirts.
- August 2: BJ's Kanikapila Wednesday from 10:15-11:30 a.m. Register at bj@bjsoriano.com or text 808-987-5655. Session is free.
- August 5: American Heart and Stroke Walk Fundraiser. Donate at heartwalk.org or drop off check at HGEA office. \$100 donation or more qualifies for a Heart Walk t-shirt.
- August 16-23: American Cancer Society Silent Auction. Complete silent auction form for HGEA team credit.
- September 20: General Membership Meeting at 9:30 a.m.
- September 23: Walk to End Alzheimer's. Registration is at 7:30 a.m., walk begins at 8 a.m. Donate at act.alz.org or drop off check to HGEA office. \$100 donation or more qualifies for Alzheimer's walk t-shirt.

KAUAI CHAPTER:

- August 14: Movie Day at 10 a.m.
- September 14: Kauai Retirees Executive Board Meeting at 10 a.m.
- September 18: General Membership Meeting at 10 a.m.

MAUI CHAPTER:

- July 18: Movie Day at 9:30 a.m.
- September 19: General Membership Meeting at 9:30 a.m. in UPW Hall. Presentations by HMSA, Kaiser and the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Confirm attendance by September 8 by contacting Steve Criss at 808-280-1526 or stplsd69@yahoo.com, or the HGEA office.
- September 20: Movie Day at 9:30 a.m.

OAHU CHAPTER:

All activities begin at 9 a.m.

- July 5 & 19 - Ukulele
- July 6, 13, 20 & 25 - Mahjong
- July 7 - Bingo
- July 11 & 25 - Tai Chi
- July 12 & 26 - Line Dance
- July 14 - Movie Day
- July 27 - Craft Day
- September 5 & 19 - Tai Chi
- September 6 & 20 - Ukulele
- September 12 & 26 - Mahjong
- September 13 & 27 - Line Dance
- September 21 - General Membership Meeting
- September 28 - Craft Day

- August 1, 15 & 29 - Tai Chi
- August 2 & 16 - Ukulele
- August 3, 8, 17 & 22 - Mahjong
- August 9 & 23 - Line Dance
- August 31 - Craft Day



Hawaii Government Employees Association
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO
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The Retirees Unit gathered for their 25th Biennial Convention in Hilo, Hawaii.

WORDFIND

Celebrating Pride Month

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Clay Aiken | Elton John |
| Tammy Baldwin | Billie Jean King |
| Becca Balint | KD Lang |
| Sue Bird | Demi Lovato |
| Nate Berkus | Martina Navratilova |
| David Cicilline | Candance Parker |
| Boy George | Renee Richards |
| Pete Buttigieg | RuPaul |
| Miley Cyrus | Raven Simone |
| Melissa Etheridge | Sam Smith |
| Robert Garcia | Richie Torres |
| Brittney Griner | Diana Taurasi |
| Neil Patrick Harris | |

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

HO`OLAHA

PUBLICATION OF THE RETIRED PEOPLE

IN THIS ISSUE

- A Message from Your Administrator
- ELF's Corner by President Ethel Fleming
- Snapshots from the 25th Biennial
- Hawaii | Kauai | Maui | Oahu Island Chapter News
- Word Find: Celebrating Pride Month

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR ADMINISTRATOR



As the the 2021-2023 board term comes to a close, I would like to thank the state and chapter board of directors who worked diligently for the success of the Retirees Unit.

Their dedication made it possible to continue activities such as movie days, mahjong, line dancing, crafts, excursions, phone banks and more. I look forward to continuing to provide services and activities for retirees as we begin the next two-year board term on July 1.

Each year, the board completes its annual evaluation of the Retirees Unit Administrator at the general membership meetings. I humbly report that I received a score of four out of five, the same score which I have received for all 12 of my evaluations. While this score is good, I do acknowledge there is room to grow as improvement is part of my commitment to the state board directors. We are strongest when we work together, and I will fully support the state and chapter boards in their future plans. It helps to have member feedback, so please reach out to your chapter presidents with any suggestions.

We recently completed the 25th Biennial Convention of the HGEA Retirees Unit. Your elected board officers are President Ethel Fleming, Vice President Ava Kridler, Secretary Steve Criss and Treasurer Timothy Albao. Fleming, Criss and Albao are continuing with the same position as the previous term. Kridler was newly elected. There were no bylaw amendments.

The convention opened with a welcome from Mayor Mitch Roth and included a message from Executive Director Randy Perreira; health care presentations from Kaiser, HMSA and Steve Glanstein; as well as fun activities such as an excursion and bingo. Music was provided by N-More and Hilo retiree member BJ Soriano.

We raised \$305 at the Public Employees Organized to Promote Legislative Equality (PEOPLE) session. The PEOPLE program assists with candidate campaigns and educates members on political issues. Some attendees even signed up to become MVP members, which brought the participation rate to 82% among attendees.

Overall, it was a very busy two days at the convention, and it was wonderful to hear many members share positive comments as they departed.

We will review all the feedback we received as we plan for the 26th Biennial Convention. For those interested in being a delegate, please note that each chapter has activity requirements. For more information on these requirements, please contact your respective chapter president.

President Fleming and I will attend the AFSCME Council of Presidents meeting in Washington, D.C. this September. It will be the first time since the pandemic that a chapter president will attend this event.

We are always recruiting new members. Please help us grow your island chapter by asking your friends, neighbors and former coworkers to join. Inviting a potential member to an activity at your island chapter is a great way to introduce them your chapter community and show them the perks of joining. Thank you for your continued support of the HGEA Retirees Unit.

Mahie



ELF'S CORNER BY PRESIDENT ETHEL L. FLEMING

Retirees Unit leadership began their two-year term in July 2021 with some trepidation. How were we to keep our membership together while dealing with the lingering effects of the pandemic?

There was fear, confusion and divergent views on how to keep safe. Since our age group was among the most vulnerable to the virus, should we decide to stay home and avoid going anywhere, even to HGEA, where there were safeguards in place such as hand sanitizers and masks?

Leadership eventually decided to shelve large gatherings and focus on keeping in touch via Zoom

and telephone. This was done to keep providing activities and connect with our members while maintaining social distance. Even though we went through some losses during this time, small gatherings began again as the caseload lessened. It was amazing to see members come together again and make memories, such as baking and sharing treats.

The incoming Retirees Unit officers and directors will need members to serve on the various committees to keep chapters running. This also includes assisting with major HGEA activities, such as political action activities during election season because supporting candidates who respect and care about our values is important.

Our Retirees Unit leadership has always valued insight from members that has contributed to our success. Please consider volunteering your time for the benefit of all members when the new leaders start their term in July. This will help reach our goal of increasing membership and lessening our members' isolation with community engagement activities.

Lastly, I would like to share some advice on what to foster for a strong organization as we move into the next board term:

- 1) Positiveness - the ability to collaborate with people and maintain a positive perspective.
- 2) Respectful Deference - the willingness to accept, engage and support leadership.
- 3) Growth Potential - being inspired and motivated by personal growth and development; the ability to continually keep growing.
- 4) Follow-through - the determination to consistently see projects through completion.
- 5) Loyalty - the willingness to put the leadership and project's agenda above all personal and business conflicts of interest.



25TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

