

20081004 Retiree News

1. **The Promise.** **Retiree News** will contain information about benefits, National Guard events, and news about retired or former members. There will be no chain e-mail, cute pictures, or sales pitches. I publish **Retiree News** on a random schedule – as topics come up and time permits. If you change your mind about receiving issues of **Retiree News**, send me an e-mail at retireenews@hawaiiantel.net and I will remove you from the **Retiree News** mailing list.

2. **Business.**

- **Policy Change for Replacing ID Cards.** Homeland Security Directive 12 now requires retirees and family members seeking to renew or replace a military identification card to provide two types of ID. Retirees and family members needing identification cards must have two of the following types of current identification -- one of which must include a photo:

- Driver's license or ID issued by a state or outlying U.S. commonwealth or possession
- ID card issued by federal, state, or local government agencies or entities
- School ID card with a photograph
- Voter's registration card
- U.S. military ID card
- U.S. passport
- Certificate of U.S. citizenship
- Certificate of naturalization

For persons younger than 18, who are unable to present a document previously listed, they may bring:

- School record or report card
- Clinic, doctor, or hospital record
- Day-care or nursery school record

The listing above is not all-inclusive. A list of acceptable documents can be found at www.uscis.gov/files/form/I-9.pdf, page 4.

Before visiting a military ID card issuing facility, people may want to call first to determine what specific documents may be required, and to verify the process to renew or replace an ID card. For contact information and the location of the nearest ID card issuing facility, visit <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/owa/home>. On this website, people can search by city, state, or ZIP code.

- During the month of September, our **Family Readiness Group**, led by **LTC Laura Wheeler** and **Mrs. Joanne Yamamoto**, conducted two marriage enrichment workshops. The first workshop was at the Turtle Bay Resort for couples on Oahu. The second was at the Sheraton Keauhou Bay for Big Island couples.

Earlier in the month, several Family Readiness Group personnel attended the Joint Family Support Assistance Program Training in Washington, D.C. The Family Readiness Group and their volunteers continue to do an outstanding job support our deployed members.

- **Air Force BMT expands from six weeks to 8½ weeks.** A new field training site for the soon-to-be-expanded Basic Military Training course at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, is about 80

percent complete and will be finished in the coming weeks, according to the commander who oversees BMT.

The site - called the Basic Expeditionary Airman Skills Training, or BEAST, facility - is designed to simulate a forward operating base to which airmen might deploy in the Middle East, said Col. Edward Westermann, 737th Training Group commander. Starting with the class that enters BMT on Nov. 3, each class will spend five days at the BEAST during its sixth week of training, learning expeditionary skills and living in the field.

The BEAST site consists of four zones with 10 tents each. Each zone will be self-contained and operate as a mini-FOB, Westermann said. "I think this is as realistic ... as we can get here at BMT," he said. The site also has a 1½-mile improvised explosive device trail so airmen can practice spotting roadside bombs and an airstrip the airmen will learn to secure. Airmen will also learn to respond to simulated air and ground attacks.

BMT expands from six weeks to 8½ weeks with the class beginning Nov. 3, but the first group of more than 800 students will not arrive at the BEAST course until December 15.

- New Security Measures at the 154th Wing compound on Hickam AFB. There are new procedures for all the gates into the 154th Wing compound that started in September. These new procedures are stepped up Air Force requirements to protect our personnel and resources as the 154th Wing transitions to the F-22 Raptor. These changes made are in conjunction with the 15th Airlift Wing Installation Security Council, who has the overall responsibility of the security of Hickam AFB.

These two gates will be closed, but remain unlocked during normal operating hours.

- Gate 13, commonly known as the "pilot's" gate.
- Gate 15, commonly known as the "LRS" gate.

These four gates remain closed and locked. Guard personnel who are authorized to be unescorted in the compound will have the gate combination(s). Personnel using the gate must insure that they lock the gates behind.

- Gate 10, the vehicular gate into the motor pool/AGE building area.
- Gate 14, the pedestrian gate into the F-15 hanger area from the oceanside parking lot.
- Gate 16, the pedestrian gate into the area between the supply and engine shop buildings
- Gate 17, the vehicular gate onto the F-15 flightline from the avionics building.

- A sore point for many is the Exchange System's requirement to write in your social security number when you pay by check. This requirement remains in a time where everyone is concerned about the compromise of your social security number to identity theft. To increase the opportunity for a compromise, the Exchange System asks for a card or document that shows your social security number.

The following is an editorial that appeared in the **Army Times** newspaper in August.

The Defense Department is in the midst of a multiyear effort to eliminate full Social Security numbers from ID cards. The new Common Access Card issued to service members does not include SSNs. ID cards for family members and retirees will also drop SSNs, or at least all but the last four digits, within a few years. Many states (*Hawaii included*) no longer use SSNs for driver's license numbers.

The reason is simple: In the digital age, a Social Security number is all a savvy thief needs to steal someone's identity and ruin his credit rating.

"Today, all of our [computer] systems can 'talk' to each other, so we don't necessarily need to know all of that information printed on your card," Mary Dixon, the Defense Department's Common Access Card program manager, said in April.

Not quite all systems. The Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Navy Exchange Service Command still require patrons paying by check to produce a document showing their SSN. AAFES even requires an SSN to process a refund on a returned item.

That means that even as SSNs vanish from ID cards, the exchanges are forcing patrons to physically possess some other crucial document, such as a Social Security card or a passport, in order to write a check or get a refund at the stores. The AAFES and NEXCOM policies are defeating the Defense Department's efforts to get Social Security numbers out of public view. No commercial retailer would require customers to verify Social Security numbers. No military exchange should, either.

- Rules of Engagement (ROE). Periodically, someone e-mails me requesting the e-mail address of another retiree. I forward the e-mail with the address request to the retiree for their action. This preserves the privacy of the retiree and their e-mail address.

3. The Wanted List. Help! I am still looking for these Hawaii National Guard members e-mail addresses or their addresses I have for them no longer works. E-mail me their addresses if you can share them.

Tom Gresch
James Carptenter
Loni Mahi
Edward Uyeda
Byron Kim
Russell Woodward
Joseph Rayray
Woody Batula
David Cowen
Dennis Hui
Roy Kudo
Ron Biho
Wayne Z. Higa
Eugene Imai

Haruo Shigezawa
Joseph Damiani
Chris Wilson
Laura Jones
Herman Lau
Randy Solomon
Jeffrey Waechter
Dewey Arakawa
Steve Ware
James Doolin
Katherine Asato
Richard Kudo
Royden Horibe
Jeffrey Okazaki

Following are the new or updated e-mail addresses sent in by the individuals or **Retiree News** readers – Mahalo for adding or updating your e-mail address.

Rich Hargrave
Melvin Enoki
Gregory Ruggles
Clyde Nagata (update)
Robert Ulin (update)

Wilson Koga
Dixson Lau
Roger Clissold (update)
Harold Tasaka (update)

AND – I am still looking for more Hawaii National Guard members. Since I started my State job working at Ft Ruger, the **Retiree News** distribution list has increased dynamically. The address total just passed **825+** members. A majority of the increase is from the Hawaii Army National Guard members who added their e-mail address to the list. Be sure to ask your fellow retirees that you meet if they receive **Retiree News**. If not, send their e-mail address to me. Mahalo!

4. Condolences. These Hawaii National Guard retirees passed away recently. They all served honorably and added something to our unique culture here in the Guard. Aloha Pumehana to all....

None this issue

5. Retiree Update.

- Hawaii Army National Guard soldiers returning from their activation #1. During September, twelve soldiers, part of the [Embedded Training Team](#), returned from Afghanistan. During their yearlong deployment, they trained the Afghan army. Four members have extended an additional four months until December 2008. Great Job and thank you for your service to America!

Two soldiers, [Shinichi Swenberg](#) and [Wesley Tanji](#), pinned on their new lieutenant colonel rank during the deployment. Congratulations to both new lieutenant colonels! Send congratulatory e-mail: shinichi.swedberg@us.army.mil wesley.tanji@us.army.mil

- Hawaii Army National Guard soldiers returning from their activation #2. Seven soldiers, members of [Det 55, Operational Support Aviation Command](#), returned from Africa after a six-month deployment. These soldiers were part of C-26 operations in Africa. Great Job and thank you for your service to America!

- Congratulations to [Colonel Stanley E. Toy](#)! His promotion ceremony was on September 18, 2008 at the Palm Circle Gazebo at Fort Shafter. Colonel Toy is on a tour with Army at Ft. Shafter. Send congratulatory e-mail: stanley.toy@us.army.mil

- Attention to Orders: Congratulations to [Jason Matsumura](#), who pinned on his lieutenant colonel rank during the September UTA weekend. In civilian life, Jason works at USARPAC in the mobilization branch. Well deserved promotion! Send congratulatory e-mail: jason.matsumura@shafter.army.mil

- Attention to Orders: Congratulations to [Stanley Domen III](#), who just pinned on his major rank. His promotion ceremony was the Daedalion Room at the Hickam Officer's Club. Stan works in the Air, Space & Information Operations Directorate (13 AF/A3) at the Thirteenth Air Force on Hickam AFB. Another well deserved promotion! Send congratulatory e-mail: stanley.domen@hickam.af.mil

- [SMSgt Robert Ulin](#), who served with the [292^d Combat Communications Squadron](#) on Maui, sent in his e-mail address update. Bob is the founder and CEO of AQP Publishing in Anchorage, Alaska. His company publishes quarterly Guard magazines for 10 states and does military base guides for several Army and Air Force bases national wide. Check out his website at www.aqppublishing.com. Great hearing from Bob!

- Personnel changes at [Headquarters, Hawaii Air National Guard](#). **Maj Gen Darryll Wong** will announce the replacements for these positions as soon as the selection processes are completed.

- **Col Michael “Inch” Compton**, the former Director of Operations, is now the commander of the new [109th Air Operations Group](#). The activation ceremony for this new group will be on November 2, 2008. Send congratulatory e-mail: michael.compton@hihick.ang.af.mil

- **Col Ann Greenlee**, the former Director of Staff, becomes the [154th Mission Support Group](#) commander. Send congratulatory e-mail: ann.greenlee@hihick.ang.af.mil

- **Col William “Pirate” Benton**, the Director of Logistics has retired. Pirate and his family have relocated to North Carolina as he resumes his US Air career. Happy Retirement Pirate!

- **Lt Col Ryan Okahara**, the former Director of Plans and Programs, has moved to the 154th Wing to become the Deputy Commander of the [154th Mission Support Group](#). Send congratulatory e-mail: ryan.okahara@hihick.ang.af.mil

- Congratulations to the members of the [93^d Civil Support Team](#), who deployed to Guam September 15-19, 2008. They participated in the Vigilant Guard Exercise, which tested them in a disaster scenario. This exercise was similar to the earlier Vigilant Guard Exercise that occurred in Nevada. As usual, the CST did an outstanding job in both exercises.

- Another superb job by the [111th Army Band](#). The band's combo performed at the Windward Mall on September 21, 2008 as part of the Mall's Operation Home Front. The event honored deployed military personnel who are supporting the Global War on Terrorism.

CW2 Curtis Y. Hiyane is the unit commander. In civilian life, he is the director of bands at Mililani High School. **1SG Christopher D. Ventura** is First Sergeant and the Readiness NCO.

- In the September 2008 issue of **Malamalama**, the magazine of the University of Hawaii system, I found an article about an old friend, **Lt Col Shirley Raguindin**. During her senior year at Manoa, she was the commander for the Air Force ROTC wing. She served in the Air Force and later joined the Arizona Air National Guard. Congratulations to Shirley!

Diversity Best Practices awarded **Lt Col Shirley Raguindin** (BS' 86 Manoa), a lieutenant colonel, and state diversity coordinator for the Arizona National Guard, the 2007 Diversity Officer Leadership Award. Shirley also was selected as one of the 100 Most Influential Filipinas in the United States by the Filipina Women's' Network.

- Long distance congratulations to **Janine Obando**. A former HIANG member, she relocated to Florida and the [125th Medical Group](#), Florida Air National Guard several years ago. She just accepted an equal opportunity position at the [Joint Force Headquarters, Florida National Guard](#). I know she will do a super job in this position!

- “Never Forget!” Special thanks to all everyone who supported the CH-47 flyover over Punchbowl on September 29, 2008. The flyover was in support of the POW/MIA ceremony. Another super job by our aviators and support soldiers!

- **Brig Gen Peter “Skipper” Pawling**, the [154th Wing](#) commander, has selected **MSgt Jason Seales** to serve as 154th Wing-Operations Group First Sergeant. His First Sergeant

responsibilities will include over 300 personnel, consisting of the [199th Fighter Squadron](#), the [203^d Air Refueling Squadron](#), the [204th Airlift Squadron](#), and the full complement of the [HQ 154th Wing/ HQ Operations Group](#) support staff. Congratulations to Jason – know he will continue his great work as a First Sergeant! Send congratulatory e-mail: jason.seales@hihick.ang.af.mil

- Attention to Orders: The September 8, 2008 promotion announcement has the following HIANG officers promoted to their new grades on appropriate effective dates. Special Thanks to [Lt Col Randy Tom](#) for sharing the promotion list.

To the Grade of Captain:

- [1st Lt Thor L. Gran](#), [154th Operations Support Flight](#), November 19, 2008
- [1st Lt Glen K. T. Hayase](#), [154th Operations Support Flight](#), February 18, 2009
- [1st Lt John L. Howard](#), [169th Aircraft Control & Warning Sq.](#), February 18, 2009
- [1st Lt Preston K. Kahikina](#), [204th Airlift Squadron](#), November 19, 2008

To the Grade of First Lieutenant:

- [2nd Lt Macie M. R. Akana](#), [154th Operations Support Flight](#), February 16, 2009
- [2nd Lt Michael V. Buendia](#), [169th Aircraft Control & Warning Sq.](#), February 16, 2009
- [2nd Lt Clay D. Cockett, Jr.](#), [169th Aircraft Control & Warning Sq.](#), February 16, 2009
- [2nd Lt Nicholas C. Danielson](#), [199th Fighter Squadron](#), November 17, 2008
- [2nd Lt Kealoha N. Kaawaloa](#), [199th Fighter Squadron](#), November 17, 2008
- [2nd Lt Christopher S. Larson](#), [292^d Combat Communications Squadron](#), February 16, 2009
- [2nd Lt Koani G. Lau](#), [203^d Air Refueling Squadron](#), November 17, 2008
- [2nd Lt Sean Y. Mattimoe](#), [292^d Combat Communications Squadron](#), February 16, 2009
- [2nd Lt Ronald M. Navarro](#), [293^d Combat Communications Squadron](#), November 17, 2008
- [2nd Lt Jared K. Raymond](#), [203^d Air Refueling Squadron](#), February 16, 2009

Send congratulatory e-mail using this format: firstname.lastname@hihick.ang.af.mil

6. Upcoming Events. Listed by event date, the events remain posted until they occur.

- The Hawaii National Guard Birthday Ball is on Saturday, December 13, 2008 at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel. This joint event celebrates the 372nd birthday of the National Guard's beginnings. The event Chair, [LTC Laura Soares](#), and her committee are planning another superb ball. The evening will include dinner, entertainment and dancing. Last year's birthday ball was a fun and entertaining event.

The Sheraton Waikiki had blocked off some rooms for those who want to spend the night. The rooms are available at the government rate of \$198.17. Call 808 921-4611 to make your reservations. This room offer will end on November 13, 2008. The room offer closes early because the Honolulu Marathon is on Sunday, December 14, 2008, and the rest of the hotel is already booked.

The specifics of the Hawaii National Guard Birthday Ball follow:

- When: Saturday, December 13, 2008
- Time: 1700-2300
- Where: Sheraton Waikiki Hotel – Maui & Kauai Ballrooms
- Dinner selections: *indicate your selection to your respective POC with your payment*
- Macadamia nut pesto chicken breast with Marsala sauce & garlic potatoes
- Roasted salmon, lemon spinach leaf & tomato basil coulis with Jasmine rice

--- New York steak with baked potato

- Costs:

--- E1-E4: \$48.00

--- E5-E7: \$60.00

--- E8-E9: \$72.00

--- WO1-CW3: \$72.00

--- CW4-CW5: \$84.00

--- O1-O3: \$72.00

--- O4 and above: \$84.00

--- Retirees: \$70.00

--- Spouses and guests: same price as their military member or retiree

- Checks made out to: "HING Birthday Ball"

- Suspense for payment: Friday, November 28, 2008

- Attire:

--- Military: Best Dress

--- Civilians: Coat & tie

- POCs:

--- 29 IBCT: **SGM Paul Confer**, 844-6032 or paul.confer@us.army.mil

--- HHD-JFHQ: **MSG Vickie Kozel**, 672-1489 or vickie.kozel@us.army.mil

--- 103 TRP CMD: **CSM Ronald Oshiba**, 672-1752 or ronald.oshiba@us.army.mil

--- 298 RTI: **1SG Mark Victor**, 672-1807 or mark.victor@us.army.mil

--- HIANG: **Lt Col Merv Oyafuso**, 448-7253 or mervin.oyafuso@hihick.ang.af.mil

--- Retirees: **Galen Yoshimoto**, 672-1221 or galen.yoshimoto@us.army.mil