



Na Eheu Lani

World Wings International, Inc.
Hawaii Chapter Newsletter

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Message from

Co-Presidents Mary Emerson & Jane Noe

The Hawaii Chapter stands strong at 59 members.

We began the signups for the Christmas luncheon early because we knew you would not want to miss our first gathering in almost two years and such a festive occasion. Though we had not met as a chapter since our December 2019 Christmas celebration, periodic chapter activities such as membership renewals and fundraising for our local charity, St. Francis Hospice Volunteer Program, as well as lifelong friendships among members have allowed us to keep in touch and assure that all are well.

After a one-year postponement of our 2020 annual spring garage sale fundraiser, a group of fully vaccinated and pandemic protocol conscious members produced an online event using digital skills and communication tools, and the 'coconut wireless' to sell the treasures that had been collected and stored. It was a two-month project and, to the satisfaction of all involved, the treasures were enthusiastically purchased and converted to a generous donation to our local charity, the members of which enjoyed participating and making new friends. We learned a lot and expect to put that experience to good use, pandemic or no pandemic.

We appreciate the periodic communications from World Wings International Board members. The reassurance that the organization continues to conduct 'business as usual', albeit in creative new ways, is very welcome.

If time is flying by

It's not Jet lag, It's a Covid thing



We have been in hibernation since our last newsletter, dated March 2020. The featured story was about our upcoming fundraiser planned for March 28, 2020.

If you recall, that meeting and fundraiser were cancelled, and we went into lockdown. The pandemic carried over into 2021 and out of an "abundance of caution" regular meetings were cancelled and with surges and restrictions we did not fully return to normalcy.

Until December 17.

On that day, we reunited and celebrated the holidays at Natsunoya Tea House on Alewa Heights, all thanks to VP **Katie Yoshioka's** planning.

With vaccination cards and ID in hand, we gathered around **Puamana** singing unabashedly, in the spirit of fun and camaraderie. On the sidelines, there was an amazing spread of local and Japanese dishes that almost required a foodie guide: salmon/tofu salad, agedashi tofu, shrimp and vegetable tempura, hibachi chicken, tonkatsu, steamed fish, nishime, potato salad, bara sushi and white rice. As if it were not enough, there was dessert by **Glori Strassberg**, prizes from **Betty Santoki's** Nomi no Ichiba, centerpieces by **Aggie von Brimer** and Diamond Bakery favors from **Jean Kawada**.

Then as we were emerging from life in isolation and lockdown with less Covid-19 restrictions, we learned about the new variant, Omicron. A little over a week later, Governor Ige announced that there were 2,205 new confirmed cases on Dec. 26 and on Dec. 30, there were 3,348 cases.

As we ponder our future direction, the Fundraising Committee continues to have positive hopes that the positive cases decline in order to meet on March 26, 2022 for a garage sale in Katie Yoshioka's Nuuanu pavillion. Donations will be accepted at Katie's house. More information is forthcoming.



GARAGE SALE

Saturday, March 26, 2022

36 Old Pali Place



Let's give it up for...



A World Wings Holiday Celebration



The wonderful, the talented, the incomparable PUAMANA!



Sumiko Carroll, Nancy Yamachi, Audrey Maurer



Shirley Tom, Vivian Tanaka, Marilyn Doyle



May Tsukiyama, Carol Nezu, Lillian Yoshioka, Lillian Nishikawa



Betty Santoki, Karen Russell, Merle Miyamoto



April Priddy, Katie Yoshioka, Glori Strassberg



Geri Nakamitsu, Nikki Ono, Hattie Kanda



Aileen Sodehani, Amy Okamoto



Sumiko Allegar, Karen Nomura



Diane Bartosik, Jane Noe



Geri Nakamitsu, Marilyn Boock



Glori Strassberg, Katie Yoshioka, Mae Takahashi, Aggie von Brimer



Volunteers: Front: Katie Yoshioka, Jane Noe, Mary Emerson; Back: Mae Takahashi, Lillian Yoshioka, Aggie Von Brimer, Betty Santoki, Glori Strassberg (Missing: Merle Miyamoto)

“Not your Ordinary Online Garage Sale”

Due to Governor Ige’s statewide lockdown beginning March 25, 2020, the Hawaii Chapter annual fundraiser scheduled for March 28, 2020 was cancelled.

Faced with the dilemma of a canceled mini-garage sale, our Chapter responded with ingenuity and flexibility and quickly adapted to the existing pandemic situation.

Betty Santoki was called out of “retirement” and asked to develop a plan to sell the hundreds of items collected for the original sale, which were stored in **Katie Yoshioka’s** home. Betty’s immediate response was to take the garage sale online for members to view and purchase from home.

She recruited a group of nine volunteers to reorganize, price and photograph the items. The photographs were featured in a sales book, called, “Not your Ordinary Online Garage Sale.” During a 2-week period members ordered items from the book and collected their treasures at Katie’s house. Because of their hard work, the HI Chapter continued their support of St. Francis Hospice.

2021 WWI Charity Drawing Winners

This year three (3) Hawaii WWI members were lucky winners of prizes in the International Drawing:
Carol Wong - Pan Am Board Game



Carol

Gloria Uslan-Milo – DJD Water Buffalo Horn Necklace

Mary Emerson - Pewter DJD Designs Beaded Evening Bag.

As in 2020, drawing tickets were not sent to members for the 2021 International Drawing. Instead, International

requested that checks be sent to World Wings International for whatever amount individuals deemed appropriate.



Gloria



Mary

Fifty percent (50%) of all donations is donated to the International Charity, DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS, and 50% is donated to chapter charities.

This year, Treasurer Mary Emerson reported that the Hawaii Chapter received \$1178 from the ICD Drawing, which represented 50% of the total donations of \$2,356, and an equal amount of \$1178 was donated to Doctors Without Borders.

Mary also added that, “Our chapter gave two donations to St. Francis during 2021, one in April, our typical end-of-fiscal-year donation, and another in December that included the proceeds of the Fundraiser totaling \$5,603. Our timing was dictated by the pandemic and our contribution was remarkable, thanks to all the efforts of our members.”

