PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Spring is nature’s way of saying "Let's party!"
~Robin Williams

Aloha Members,

As I am writing this, the wind is whistling through my back door and the leaves of my indoor plants are rustling. I can’t believe spring is just around the corner. (Of course, I know many friends on the mainland who would gladly change places with us.) Spring brings new life and new revelations. I’m hoping that will be true for Na Kilohana O Wahine. March is our Spring Enrollment event, and our committee has planned a wonderful program. I hope you will be bringing your guests so that they might infuse new life into our chapter, and they can receive the revelations that come with membership in ABWA.

We will also be nominating members for Chapter Woman of the Year and Top Ten Business Women. This is our chance to say “thank you” to a member in the chapter who has done a lot to promote chapter goals and help members grow. It is also the opportunity to provide recognition to a special member who has made great strides in their work environment. The criteria for both of these awards are in this newsletter. Please come to the meeting and nominate our deserving members for these awards.

I will be in New York while you are at the meeting and I will be thinking about you. I have also submitted names of five colleagues who I hope will be in attendance. After New York, I will be attending the District VI conference in Tucson, Arizona, where I will be presenting our great newsletter for recognition. See you all in April!

Aloha,
Myrtle

MARCH 11 MEETING
"How to Protect Yourself from Skin Cancer"

Featured Speaker:
Dr. Terrilea Burnett, Ph.D.

Dr. Burnett is currently the Director for Hawaii Family Registry for Colorectal Cancer Studies, Core Manager for PPG Study, at the Cancer Reserach Center of Hawaii since 1998. She is also with the Adjunct Faculty at the University of Hawaii, College of Medicine.

With numerous publications and research done on cancer, she is the recipient of several awards and honors (to name a few):

- Association for Women in Science, Hawaii Chapter President's Award
- American Association of University Women, Constance Endicott Hartt Fellowship
- Lawrence Piette Memorial Fund Stipend Award

SPRING ENROLLMENT CAMPAIGN
See details on next page
Gloria Kelly - Na Kilohana O Wahine Member

I was born and raised in Wahiawa and graduated from Leilehua High School and Cannons’ School of Business with a degree in Professional Secretary. The majority of my career was working in the hospitality and travel industry. During the Gulf War, I switched to the restaurant and food industry and worked at Zippy’s as my second career for fifteen years. As most of you know, I semi-retired from Zippy’s in January, 2007, to travel and just “take it easy” by working as a “temp” in a less stressful position. That was short-lived because in June, 2007, I began my third career employed by Kawaiaha’o Church, a non-profit organization, as HR/Business Office Manager.

My husband Hilary is from Ireland and we met while he was at United Airlines, assigned to Hawai‘i. We have three grown children and two grandchildren. Romy and grandkids (Chris & Mateo) lives in Las Vegas, Jody is here in Hawaii, and Thomas is stationed in San Diego.

I joined ABWA in 1998 and was formerly with Na Wahine Holomua Chapter and served as President, Secretary, Treasurer and Newsletter Chair. I have been a member of the Na Kilohana O Wahine Chapter since 2003 and served as President, President-elect, chaired the Program, Membership committees, and now Members Education and Professional Development.

I have grown professionally and have met so many wonderful ladies and gent (Stan) in the local chapters and on the mainland while attending the National Conferences.
Lee Ann Matsuda - 2009 CFO of the Year Award Finalist

Congratulations to our chapter member, Lee Ann Matsuda, Sr. Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Easter Seals Hawaii, who was named one of the 19 finalists for the 2009 CFO of the Year award. The CFO of the Year awards are presented to financial professionals in Hawaii for outstanding performance in their roles as financial stewards. These finalists were judged based on their service to their companies and to their communities. One of the nineteen finalist will be named the 2009 CFO of the Year at the PBNs Event “Awarding Financial Excellence” on March 19.

When: Thursday, March 19, 2009
Where: Halekulani Hotel Grand Ballroom
Registration: 5:15 p.m.
Program: 6 p.m. followed by reception with Halekulani pupu and no-host cocktails
Cost: $65 if you register by 3/9/09; $75 after that date, space permitting
Parking: Complimentary with validation
E-mail dtavares@bizjournals.com for registration form

Wisdom From Our Member:
Roberta Takamoto
Roberta’s Gifts Baskets & Flowers, Owner

1. Service to the customer is sometimes more important than the product you’re selling. If you service, the sales will come.
2. The voice on the other telephone line is your best and most important calling card.
3. Life is like a mirror; what you see is what you get...or don’t get.
4. Don’t worry about repeating and repeating to alzheimer patients when they continually ask the same questions. It is when they stop asking that is when they’re in heaven.
5. A smile is free; give it freely and often.
6. Do you know why “giving” doubles the pleasure? Both sides enjoy!
7. Say “Hello” to everyone in the elevator; it may be the only “Hello” they will receive for the entire day.

Na Wahine O Kilohana Garage Sale

Saturday, March 28th
Lee Ann Matsuda’s home in Mililani
8:00 am - 1:00 p.m.

Since there will not be a wine tasting event this year, we need all members to help make this fundraiser a success. Donations and help are needed on both Friday night after work through Saturday to approximately 3:00 pm. Please keep, March 27 and March 28 reserved for the garage sale! Contact Iris Yafuso, Fundraising Chair, at master_kipper@hotmail.com or call 694-1423.
Ka Lono KILOHANA Newsletter

Na Kilohana O Wahine Chapter Presents an Educational Seminar

“Harnessing Relationships to Achieve Business Results”

Sherri Y. Okinaga
Co-founder & Principal of Insight Consulting & Training

No matter what business you are in, we are all in the relationship business first and foremost. Obtaining better business results starts with your ability to develop breakthrough relationships which goes far beyond surface networking. It requires self knowledge and application of specific behaviors that lead to better business outcomes.

Sherri brings twenty years of business experience from a large Fortune 500 company, mid-size companies, and not-for-profit organizations to the marketplace. She has enjoyed successful careers in customer service, corporate sales and marketing, information technology, secondary education, and non-profit constituent management.

Come to our Na Kilohana O Wahine Chapter’s Educational Seminar to learn from Sherri Okinaga tips on how to maximize your “Return on Relationships”.

Saturday, April 4, 2009
9:00 am to 12 pm (doors open at 8:30 am)
JCCH - 2454 S. Beretania Street
Phone: 256-0655 or 469-3065

Chapter Members: Free; Family Members: $20.00 (Na Kilohana)
ABWA Members: $40.00; Guests: $45.00
(Includes Continental Breakfast)
Validated Parking: $5.00
(100% of proceeds after expenses will be dedicated to the Na Kilohana O Wahine Chapter Scholarship/Education Fund)

RSVP DEADLINE: March 25
Mail check payable to ABWA c/o Gloria Kelly
2754 Kuilei St., #1405, Honolulu, HI 96826

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Impact on the Citizens and Businesses of Hawaii
What does this mean for Hawaii?
Excerpts submitted by Lynn Miller

Tax Relief for Hawaii Families and Businesses: According to fact sheets posted on http://www.recovery.gov/ the following are examples of tax provisions in the ARRA that will help Hawaii businesses and families create jobs and get Hawaii’s economy moving.

Making Work Pay Tax Credit - up to $500 for individuals and $1,000 for married couples.

$300 to Social Security beneficiaries, SSI recipients, and disabled veterans.

$2,500 for the American Opportunity Tax Credit (an increase in the tax credit for higher education and allowing the credit for four full years)

Extended and increased Homebuyer Tax Credit to both help aspiring homeowners and to stabilize plummeting home prices.

Extended Bonus Depreciation and Small Business Expensing through 2009, allowing businesses that make capital investments to immediately deduct one-half the cost. Small businesses can immediately deduct 100 percent of the cost of these investments.

In addition, the ARRA would protect over 26 million working families across the nation from the Alternative Minimum Tax, representing thousands of dollars in additional income taxes. According to the Congressional Research Service, 86,000 Hawaii residents would be protected from the Alternative Minimum Tax in 2009.

*The benefits described in this fact sheet represent estimates of highlights of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. It is not a complete listing of all the programs included in the legislation.
Please bring your nominations to the March 11 meeting.

Na Kilohana O Wahine
Woman of the Year

The Woman of the Year program was designed so every chapter can annually recognize a member who has made notable contributions and outstanding achievements. Being named Woman of the Year is a great honor - one that is highly respected by ABWA members.

Who will be named as our chapter Woman of the Year for 2008-2009?

- Be a member in good standing
- Be a current or past chapter officer/committee chair
- Has made a major contribution in time or effort to the chapter
- Involvement in ABWA activities, offices, or programs
- Formal education - accredited and continuing education
- Career accomplishments - career progression
- Community involvements

ABWA Top Ten
Business Women of the Year

Each year, ten ABWA members are recognized nationally and receive special recognition at the national conference by being selected as the Top Ten Business Women of ABWA. These women have made exceptional achievements in their lives and have excelled in meeting career goals and enhancing their education. They give back to their communities and are committed to the mission of ABWA. These women also strive to achieve a balance among their career, activities, and family. The Top Ten represent our Association’s image of success as well as that of our culture and serve as important role models for our members. Each chapter has the chance to name a Top Ten candidate.

Who will be named as our chapter Top Ten Business Woman of the Year for 2008-2009?

- Be a female
- Be currently employed
- Be a current or past chapter officer
- Be a member in good standing for at least three years as of May 15th of the nomination year
- Be a member currently in good standing both nationally and locally
- Be nominated by her chapter which has been her primary affiliation for at least one year as of May 15th of the nomination year

Na Kilohana O Wahine
Woman of the Year
(1994 to Present)

1994 - Cordie Fukuhara
1997 - Yvonne Ako
1998 - Patti Ann Hokama
1999 - Vanessa Pedro
2000 - Yvonne Ako
2001 - Fran Hamasaki
2002 - Cordie Fukuhara
2003 - Chassidy Shinno
2004 - Cheryl Fernandez
2005 - Lee Ann Matsuda
2006 - Gloria Kelly
2007 - Iris Yafuso
2008 - Patti Ann Hokama
2009 - ???

Na Kilohana O Wahine
Top Ten Business Women of the Year
(1997 to Present)

1997 - Iris Yafuso
1998 - Iris Yafuso
1999 - Patti Ann Hokama
2000 - Myrtle Ching-Rappa
2001 - Lee Ann Matsuda
2004 - Yvonne Ako
2005 - Lee Ann Matsuda
2006 - Myrtle Ching-Rappa
2009 - ???
2008 - 2009 Executive Board

President
Myrtle Ching-Rappa
University of Hawaii
Director, Center of Career Development & Student Employment

Vice President
Claire N. Arakawa
New England Financial Marketing Director

Secretary
Patti Ann Hokama
Real Estate Update, Inc. Principal Broker/Owner

Treasurer
Donna Miyashiro
BEI Hawai‘i HR Administrator

President-Elect
Lynn S. Miller
City & County Honolulu Police Department Grants Coordinator

ABWA’s Proud Code Of Conduct

1. All members will serve as goodwill ambassadors for the American Business Women’s Association.
2. Members will not allow their personal beliefs and convictions to interfere with the representation of ABWA’s mission.
3. Members will always treat their member colleagues, guests, vendors and sponsors with honesty, respect, fairness, integrity, responsibility, kindness, and in good faith.
4. Members will maintain compliance with ABWA National, Chapter and Express Network Bylaws.
5. Members will not use their personal power to advance their personal interest.
6. Members will strive for excellence in their professions by maintaining and enhancing their own business knowledge and skills, and by encouraging the professional development of other members.

Na Kilohana O Wahine
“The Superior of Women”
Founded 1977
Meets the second Wednesday of every month

Chapter Emblem
An original Hawaiian interpretation of ABWA’s traditional flower, the white carnation.

Woman of the Year
Patti Ann Hokama
Real Estate Update, Inc.
Each year, our chapter selects a member who has made notable contributions and achievements to be the Woman of the Year.

Ka Lono Kilohana:
The Superior of Messages
Photographer:
Donna Miyashiro
Newsletter Editor:
Frances Hokama, fhokama@yahoo.com, phone 235-2614.

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