



O.L.R.W. Newsletter

Oahu League of Republican Women
Carol Thomas, President • 808- 261-1146

Oahu League of Republican Women

Pam Smith, Editor • 808-398-5556 • olrwnews@gmail.com

February 2016

Luncheon / Meeting
February 4, 2016

Jade Dynasty Restaurant
11:00 A.M. Social Hour
11:30 A.M. Meeting
12:00 Noon Lunch
12:30 P.M. Speaker

Cost
\$30.00 Members
\$35.00 Guests

Family Style Menu

Char Sui
& Garlic Cucumber

Dried scallop
& shredded chicken soup

Fried chicken
w/golden roasted garlic

Tenderloin cubes
w/black pepper sauce

Steamed fish filets
w/ham, mushroom &
vegetable

Honey & walnut shrimp

Braised black mushroom
& Shanghai Pak choy

Steamed rice

Egg custard

Hot Tea

Reservations/Cancellations

Celyn Chong Kee

306-5089

olrwreservations@gmail.com

olrw.org

Reservations/Cancellations must be made by Jan 29th. All lunches are reserved, so *No Shows will be charged for their lunch.*

Please - no walk-ins.



Speaker

Percy Ihara

Generations Magazine



Percy Ihara is the publisher/editor of Generations Magazine, a print media resource magazine catering to Hawaii's seniors and their families where they highlight programs and services in our community to improve the quality of lives

Percy is a 26 year veteran of the mortgage business and has been involved educating the public of "Aging in Place" and the option of a reverse mortgage for the last 11 years to the senior population, legal, financial and business professionals.

He is a board member of the Arthritis Foundation of Hawaii, Financial Planners Association, Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society, Hawaii Publishers Association and member of the Kokua Council, AARP Chapter 60, Kupuna Caucus, State Task Force on Fall Prevention and State Task Force on the Alzheimer's and Dementia Related Diseases.

Finally, Percy is an advisor to the KHON2 News Elderhood Project TV segments and producer of the popular Elderhood Project/Generations Magazine's Annual "Aging in Place" workshop. In its 9th year, the workshop is popular for baby boomers and their parents and provides trusted resourceful information in the navigation and the challenges of aging in place.



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February Babies

HAU'OLI LA HANAU TO

Vanita Rae Smith 1
Jim Bowman 2
Carol Kaapu 2
Judith Kalin 4
Julia Allen 4
Gwen Honjo 5
Leilani Isa 15
Kay Tompkins 19

Reta Maag 19
Linda Kaita 21
Tonya Himes 22
Sylvia Lewis 22
Lorene L Unten 23
Judi Chang 25
Theone Vredenburg 26
Lynne Meyer 28



The Pres Says...

Carol Thomas, President



YEAR OF THE MONKEY

2016 is the 4713th Chinese Year. According to the *Chinese Horoscope calendar*, the first day of Red Monkey is on February 4, 2016.

This day is not the Chinese New Year Day. Most of Internet Chinese horoscope sites use Chinese New Year Day to determine the Chinese zodiac sign, which is wrong.

Chinese New Year Day of Red Monkey Year is on February 8, 2016.

2016 Dues

Your Dues will remain the same for 2016 at \$25, but we will change the way they are allocated.



Twenty dollars will pay for our operating expenses, such as our newsletter, website, liability insurance, promotional items, gifts

and office supplies.

Five dollars of your dues will be allocated as an OLRW PAC contribution from you. Your name will not appear on the campaign spending report unless you donate an additional \$95.01 during the campaign period. (Campaign spending reports only show aggregate contributions of MORE THAN \$100 from any donor)



Luncheon Schedule

- Mar 3 The Willows
Kyle Karioka - Salvation Army
Easter Bonnet Contest
- April 7 Honolulu Country Club
Republican Candidates
- May Oahu Country Club
Republican Candidates
- June The Willows
Republican Legislators - Session wrap up



Welcome

to our newest members

**Nancy Monahan
&
Karen Jensen**

We are looking forward to getting to know you!

We are Happy to announce
Carolyn Tobias became a Life Member

January Luncheon Waialae Country Club



Thank you to the folks who pitched in to get the newsletter folded, stamped and labeled so they could go into the mail.



Thank you to Andrew Walden for talking to us about the Republican Presidential Caucuses in Hawaii.



Mimi Torreno won the 50/50 drawing in January. Mimi generously donated her winnings to the PAC.





Groundhog Day is a holiday celebrated on February 2 originating from the custom of early German-speaking immigrants to Pennsylvania in the 18th and 19th centuries. If on this day a groundhog emerges from its winter burrow and its sunny, it will see its shadow and retreat back into the burrow, and the winter will last for six more weeks. Otherwise, if the weather is cloudy, the groundhog will remain out, and the spring will come early.

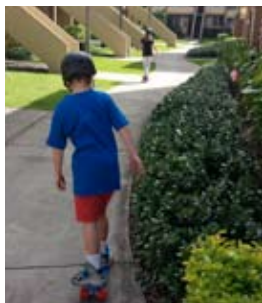


Groundhog Day was adopted in the U.S. in 1887. Clymer H. Freas was the editor of the local paper Punxsutawney Spirit at the time, and he began promoting the town's groundhog as the official "Groundhog Day meteorologist".

According to research by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration the groundhogs forecasts are not very accurate on average. However, the tradition is surely an important part of the cultural heritage and a source of inspiration. It was a main theme of well received "Groundhog Day" comedy film (1993) directed by Harold Ramis, starring Bill Murray and Andie MacDowell.



The Quiros Family



I can not even begin to put into words how grateful and appreciative we are for everything you have done for our family. 2016 seems to be starting off better and we only hope for it to continue.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.



The history of Valentine's Day—and the story of its patron saint—is shrouded in mystery. We do know that February has long been celebrated as a month of romance, and that St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition.



Did You Know?

Approximately 150 million Valentine's Day cards are exchanged annually, making Valentine's Day the second most popular card-sending holiday after Christmas.

Typical Valentine's Day Greetings



In addition to the United States, Valentine's Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France and Australia. In Great Britain, Valentine's Day began to be popularly celebrated around the 17th century. By the middle of the 18th, it was common for friends and lovers of all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes, and by 1900

printed cards began to replace written letters due to improvements in printing technology. Ready-made cards were an easy way for people to express their emotions in a time when direct expression of one's feelings was discouraged. Cheaper postage rates also contributed to an increase in the popularity of sending Valentine's Day greetings.

Americans probably began exchanging hand-made valentines in the early 1700s. In the 1840s, Esther A. Howland began selling the first mass-produced valentines in America. Howland, known as the "Mother of the Valentine," made elaborate creations with real lace, ribbons and colorful pictures known as "scrap." Today, according to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year. (An estimated 2.6 billion cards are sent for Christmas.) Women purchase approximately 85 percent of all valentines.



The OLRW PAC is the arm of the League that collects money to support our state and county candidates.

During the last election cycle we gave \$9300 to candidates running for State offices. We felt that some deserved more, but we ran out of funds. We would like to at least double our contributions next election cycle, but we need your continued and constant support to do that.

If each of our members gave just \$5 per month (about 17 cents per day) we would have well over **\$24,000** in our account for the next election.

Westie \$15.00



Pre-Order your Valentine treats
ALL PROFIT GOES TO THE OLRW PAC
CONTACT Pam Smith
 398-5556
 pamleesmith@gmail.com

All Heart \$15.00



Pam will have Balloons and her very special heart-shaped Lemon sugar cookies with cinnamon candy topping and foil heart balloons for sale again this year,

Bear Family \$ 18



The gently used, but clean plush animals will be available on a first come first serve basis. If you want to pre-order please refer to the name next to the item. Prices are as follows



Bag of Cookies + 1 balloon \$10.00

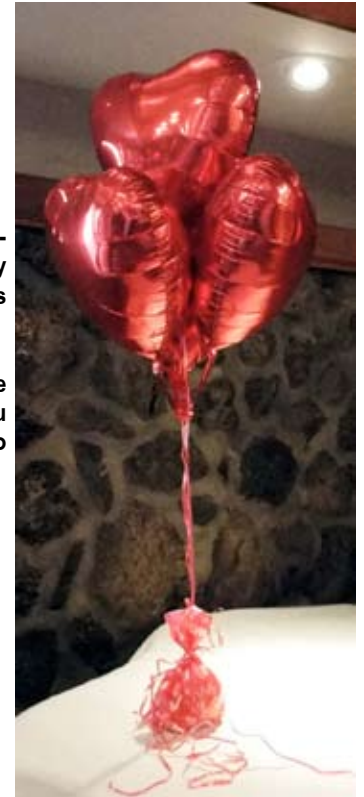
Additional Balloons - \$5.00

Animals with 1 Balloon & Bag of Cookies Priced as marked on this page.

Panther \$13



Husky \$13



Edna's Challenge

We have to start taking our responsibility to our candidate seriously. There are several key races this year that we could make a real difference in if we collect the funds to compete with the democrats. Wouldn't you like to see Aaron Johanson lose his seat to Eric Ching? It won't happen by magic. We can contribute to Aaron's defeat, but we need to plan now to have the money to help.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our PAC during the past year.

Jaci Agustin could use our help in District 34 and even our Sam Slom is facing a slimy Stanley Chang in the General.

Edna Fujiwara has generously donated \$500 to the OLRW PAC and challenges each of you to match this amount in 2016.

Our Report covering all of our PAC activity through the end of 2015 is on record with the Hawaii Campaign Spending Commission. (Filing date is 2/1/2016)

Are YOU up to the challenge?



12 Points from Sam Slom's Opening Day speech at the legislature.

1. The Legislature must be more accountable for unfulfilled promises, wasted tax money, poorly written contracts and unenforceable legislation. The Legislature is accountable for failing to penalize poor performance by government and/or excusing individual bad or corrupt behavior.
2. Our \$26 billion biennial operating budget is bloated and in deficit. So too our \$28 billion unfunded liability. The Senate Minority sponsors the Hawaii Open Budget so you can see the budgets for yourself. We also propose an annual Alternative Operating Budget—our suggestions on how to trim the fat, pay down debt and restore the fiscal health of our government.
3. While we talk of change, we don't change. Problems of a decade ago—or even longer—are still problems in Hawaii today: back breaking taxes, homelessness, the high cost of living, diminishing economic diversity, replacing our aging infrastructure, cooling our classrooms, among others.
4. We seem to be out of touch with reality, making it increasingly difficult to speak out against the cause of problems in Hawaii and to call for change. Yet it must be done. How? Simply stated, we must do a much better job not of making new promises, but of making good on old ones.
5. Your Senate Minority continues to believe that Hawaii's economy has not turned an economic corner despite selected employment and tax data, and that too many of our citizens and small businesses continue to struggle needlessly.
6. Hawaii holds the distinction of having every major national organization rate Hawaii at or near #1 in the U.S. in homelessness, food stamps, and welfare subsidies per capita while ranking Hawaii #50 (the worst in the U.S.) to operate a small business, for a positive business climate and for residents' inability to save after paying basic necessities.
7. Hawaii is perceived as being "hostile" to business. We do have a state agency, the Department of Business and Economic Development, now operating as a Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Housing, Energy, Aerospace, Film, Art and Culture, Affordable Housing, Loans and Climate Change. There is no focused business advocate in Hawaii government that advocates for tax and regulatory relief to really help local business.
8. Hawaii has a reputation of not honoring its contractual commitments. Latest example: the Thirty Meter Telescope. Hawaii beat out worldwide competition to build the most powerful instrument of discovery and exploration, yet the project is now on hold. We need clear, decisive action to honor the TMT contract and get it built.
9. How many promises have already been broken, and are yet to be broken, on the off schedule, off budget originally \$2.7 billion (now nearly \$7 billion) O'ahu rail transit boondoggle? The Legislature made this never ending drain on taxes possible and is an enabler to the biggest and worst public project in Hawaii's history. There is no accountability, while roads, sewers and water delivery continue to break down.
10. Hawaii Health Connector wasted more than \$150 million dollars without improving health care. The "affordable" was taken out of the Affordable Care Act by boosting individual insurance premiums by as much as 40% for insurance companies to recover their share of the cost of this failed system. Millions more are being spent on the "transition" to the Federal exchange. It should receive no more state taxpayer funds.
11. We must continue to be compassionate, but not foolish, in helping the truly needy, while dealing firmly with those who prey on others and game the system. Stopping fraud is key.
12. We must increase our local residents' standard of living by reducing their burdensome costs. We begin by eliminating the GET on food and medicine.

Join the peoples' Senator for the
CAMPAIGN 2016 KICKOFF!



But please let us know if you will be coming.

February 6 • 5:00–7:30pm
at the home of
Kathy Higa
611 West Hind Drive
RSVP
255-5633 or
MikePalcic@yahoo.com



Letters to the Editor

We encourage our members to write letter to the editor. As akamai members of the community, we should be commenting on the issues of the day to educate people that lack our perspective. If you have an issue

that you want to speak out on, but don't know how to write a letter Garry Smith is willing to help our members to write letters to the editor. You can call Garry at 392-5559 or email him at garrysmith01@gmail.com.

Following are the rules for The Star Advertiser and MidWeek Letters:

The Star-Advertiser welcomes letters up to 150 words and guest columns of 500-600 words. The Star-Advertiser reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length. Please direct comments to the issues; personal attacks will not be published. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number.

Letters must

- (a) be signed and include your area of residence and
- (b) include a daytime telephone number (not for publication).

Below are letters from OUR MEMBERS printed by the Star Advertiser and Midweek in the past month.

We should aim for at least 3-4 letters per month from our members in print.

You can't change peoples' minds if you don't speak out.



Postal Mail: Letters to the Editor, Star-Advertiser
7 Waterfront Plaza, 500 Ala Moana, Suite 7-210
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
E-mail: letters@staradvertiser.com
Fax: (808) 529-4750



email letters to
Dchapman@midweek.com

Why can't we build on time, on budget?

'MidWeek' - 2016-01-05

It is interesting to note that on Jan. 5, 1933, construction began on the Golden Gate Bridge ("This Week in History," StarAdvertiser, Dec. 3). Work was completed four years later. How is it that, using labor-intensive methods of construction, workers could build what was at the time the world's longest suspension bridge in just four years, ahead of schedule and \$1.3 million under budget?

In contrast, we are still waiting for the one-lane expansion of H-1 at the Pearl City exit to be completed, with frequent closings of the freeway to repair potholes on this still new lane.

We also await the final cost of the rail transit project and the real date of completion, now two years beyond the original estimate and who knows how much over the always-moving budget.

Lola Arakaki

Let's scrap state's recycling program

'Honolulu Star-Advertiser' - 2015-12-31

Now the recyclers are complaining about the low price they get for our stolen aluminum ("If no can, no can," Star-Advertiser, Dec 29)

That's right. We used to get paid for the value of the metal we recycled. Now we get only our deposit back and pay a fee for the privilege. They get the metal.

I think it's time to dump the whole program. Get rid of the deposit and the fee. We will gladly recycle in the blue bin for free.

Michael G. Palcic

Obama bungled future of Cuba

'Honolulu Star-Advertiser' - 2016-01-01

President Barack Obama occasionally has likened his achievements with those of President Ronald Reagan.

On June 12, 1987, Reagan made a speech in West Berlin. That speech included the line, "Mr. (Mikhail) Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"

Two years later, on Nov. 9, 1989, the Berlin Wall was opened, and began to be torn down, and East Berlin gained freedom.

Obama opened some relations with communist Cuba on July 20, 2015. The embargo had been in effect the same year the Berlin Wall was built in 1961.

The difference is that one president demanded that the communists give up their tyrannical control over their people, while Obama has given the dictators Raul and Fidel Castro their greatest hopes in exchange for nothing.

One president took down a wall. Another president gave in to make a wall even more oppressive to its people.

Earl Arakaki



Feature Writers

We need people that are willing to write stories about current events and biographies of OLRW members. Professional credentials NOT required.

No need for a monthly commitment. Contact Pam Smith for more information.

Is one of our members ill?

If you know of a member that is sick or has had a death in the family please let us know so we can send them get well wishes or condolences. Call **Corresponding Secretary Jane Au** at 373-3820

Advertisers

If we want to expand the newsletter to include more content we need to get advertisers to cover the cost. Please contact Pam for details.

Fireworks will never disappear

'Honolulu Star-Advertiser' - 2016-01-13

Although the editorial, "Crack down on fireworks smugglers" (Star-Advertiser, Our View, Jan. 9) is well-intentioned, the practical result will be a very limited success.

The Honolulu Police Department did a remarkable job in attempting to enforce fireworks laws, but was caught off guard by the large number of violators and sheer amount of fireworks used.

Random inspections of incoming shipping containers, as envisioned by state Sen. Will Espero, would result in more fireworks being shipped to replace the ones found randomly — a cost of doing business. HPD would still be outnumbered in trying to enforce the law.

A more effective action would be to have a fulltime undercover unit dedicated year-round to find the smugglers, confiscate their inventory and prosecute them. This would probably provide leads to other crimes such as illegal drugs and chopped cars while taking randomness out of the equation.

Pam Smith



Upcoming Events

OLRW Volunteer opportunities: contact Ione Gumpfer, OLRW Volunteer Coordinator, at 262-9788 or igumpfer@aol.com

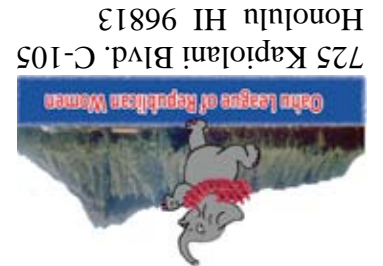
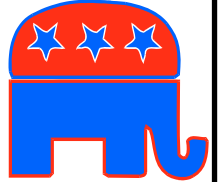


Reminder

Please bring in your OLRW PAC Change.

We have jars available that you can reuse every month.

Remember: Your Small Change can mean Big Change in Hawaii!



Mail your check to:

Oahu League of
Republican Women
#C-105
725 Kapiolani Blvd.
Honolulu HI 96813

Or bring it to our next meeting

Oahu League of Republican Women Membership Application

Date _____ Birthday Month _____ Day _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

E-mail Address _____

Dues \$25.00 Yearly \$200.00 Lifetime

