



O.L.R.W. Newsletter

Oahu League of Republican Women
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Pam Smith, Editor • 808-398-5556 • olrwnews@gmail.com

May 2018

Luncheon / Meeting
WEDNESDAY May 2, 2018

Waialae Country Club
11:00 A.M. Social Hour
11:30 A.M. Meeting
12:00 Noon Lunch
12:30 P.M. Speaker

Cost

\$42.00 Members
Guests

Buffet Menu

Island Greens
w/condiments
Pasta Salad
Primavera

Braised Boneless
Short ribs

w/ ume sauce

Mashed Potatoes
Vegetables of the day

Beverages

Rolls & Butter

Warm Bread
Pudding

w/vanilla sauce

Reservations/Cancellations

Celyn Chong Kee
306-5089

olrwreservations@gmail.com
olrw.org

Reservations/Cancellations must be made by April 24th. All lunches are reserved, so *No Shows will be charged for their lunch.*

Please - no walk-ins.

Candidate Forum:

Governor & Lt. Governor Candidates



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2018 Dues

\$35.00.

**Due
Now**



HAU'OLI LA HANAU To

May Babies

Pat Saiki

Lloyd Yonenaka 7

Carol Thomas 9

Carol White 10

Terry Thomason 14

Willes Lee 21

Richard Humes 21

Helen Wagner 21

Erm Gartley 22

Denise Kekuna 23

Leigh Buchholz 25

Raymond Malloy 26

Patricia Lohr 29

Rory Toomey



The Pres Says...

Carol Thomas, President

I repeat myself that the mainstream media isn't telling the story of the accomplishments of the Trump administration.

Quoting a U.S. Senate candidate: You may not have noticed that April 17, 2018 was a big day for American taxpayers... It marked the last time we'll ever have to file federal taxes under the old, complicated revenue system.

That's right: Thanks to President Trump, the 32-year-old tax code was thrown in the waste can as of April 17, 2018 – and next year we'll file federal taxes under a much simpler system that leaves more money in our pockets!

This is a tremendous win for our country... and it shows we are well on our way to Making America Great Again!

To this accomplishment let's add the news that Mike Pompeo recently met with the NOKO leader to lay out a plan for the future meeting with our President Trump. One democrat responds that he is worried that our president doesn't know how to handle this meeting?! Seriously, Senator Warner can look into the camera and speak this partisan nonsense.

Next, The United Nations agreed with the United States, France, and United Kingdom, that taking action against Syria was the right thing and shot down Russia's condemnation of the attack. It confuses me that the world agrees that the actions were fair and just but our own liberals and some in Congress, including our congressional team, question the attack.

As UN Ambassador Nikki Haley recently pushed back at Larry Kudlow regarding new Russian sanctions "With all due respect, I don't get confused." Mr. Kudlow later apologized and said he was totally wrong. Trade War scare: China now recognizes that it might be in their best interest to consider lowering tariffs.

I won't even dignify a response to the nonsense that the fired FBI director is spewing on late night TV about our president. Yay for TV commentators Meghan McCain and Savannah Guthrie for letting him have it. Let us remember First Lady Barbara Bush for her love of family, the Lord, and her country. But let's not forget her sense of humor or her bold truthfulness to tell it like it is. Such a beautiful family.

Welcome

to our newest members

Diana Anderson

Tess Abalos Quilingking

We are looking forward to getting to know you!

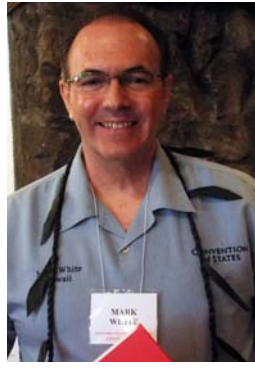
Next Month's Luncheon

June 5 2018

The Willows



April Luncheon The Willows



Mahalo to Mark White for informing us about the Convention of States.



Janet Judwin won the 50/50 drawing in April. Half of the pot went to Fania, the other half goes to the OLRW PAC. Janet Donated \$20 of her winnings to the PAC. In a second drawing Fania Wedro won a lei provided by Ione Gumpfer. Thank you to all who contributed.



2018 STATE CONVENTION

KOOLAU BALLROOMS • MAY 4TH THRU 6TH • HONOLULU, HI



To purchase tickets online click on this flier or go to this link:

<https://2018gophistateconvention.eventbrite.com>

To pay by check, please call 808-593-8180

FRIDAY, MAY 4TH KO'OLAU BALLROOMS

- Optional for Delegates/Alternates
- 1:00pm - 4:00pm - Get Out The Vote Training
- 5:00pm - 8:00pm - Cocktail Reception, Light Pupu's

SATURDAY, MAY 5TH KO'OLAU BALLROOMS

- 6:30am - Registration
- 6:30am - Continental Breakfast
- 8:00am - Opening
- 12:30pm - Lunch/Guest Speaker
- 3:00pm - Closing

CAMPAIGN MANAGER TRAINING AT GOP HEADQUARTERS

- Optional:
- Saturday, May 5th
4:45pm - 8:00pm
- Sunday, May 6th
9:00am - 5:00pm

Not authorized by any candidate to candidate committee.
Paid for by the Republican Party of Hawaii
725 Kapiolani Blvd., C-105, Honolulu, Hawaii

TAX FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

The Feds Gave You a Break? Now We, the State, Can Turn the Screws?

It's not often that State lawmakers express their justification for imposing taxes in terms other than "We need the money to fund essential services and programs." But how about this? The following language is from an actual bill:

"The legislature finds that the federal government has significantly raised the threshold for the federal estate tax. The federal estate tax grants an exemption of \$5,490,000 per individual and up to \$10,980,000 for a surviving spouse; provided that the surviving spouse elects to use portability of the predeceased spouse's exemption on the predeceased spouse's estate tax return. Estates valued at less than these amounts are exempt from paying federal estate taxes. The recently enacted Public Law No. 115-97, originally introduced in Congress as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, doubles the threshold to approximately \$11,180,000 and \$22,360,000, respectively, and will result in a reduction in federal estate tax revenues. According to Internal Revenue Service data, twenty-one estates in Hawaii paid a total of \$23,471,000 in federal estate taxes in 2015.

The legislature further finds that these changes to the federal estate tax provide the State with an opportunity to benefit Hawaii residents. By amending Hawaii's estate tax thresholds and rates, the State can capture some of the money that certain residents will no longer be required to pay to the federal government and redirect that money to the State."

Kuhio Day Pancake Breakfast



Tom Yamachika

President



This, by the way, is from HB 207, Senate Draft 1.

As it now exists, the bill would jack up the Hawaii estate tax by adding a new top tax rate of 20% to be applied to taxable estates over \$10 million. It would also hike the Hawaii conveyance tax on purchases or sales of condominiums or single-family residences valued at \$2 million or more, and there the tax would increase between 66% and 220% depending on the value of the unit being sold.

The bill as the House passed it in 2017 looks nothing like the current bill. Surprise, surprise, this bill is another victim of the much-hyped “gut and replace” technique. What does that mean? The only thing about a bill that can’t be changed during its journey through the Legislature is its title, and under the Hawaii Constitution, the contents of a bill must relate to its title. Therefore, if a legislative committee has before it a bill with a broad title like “Relating to Taxation,” it can amend the bill by gutting it and replacing its entire contents with something very different. This bill as the House passed it, for example, was an income tax bill relating to the low-income householder renters’ credit. But because its title is “Relating to Taxation,” the income tax contents can be deleted and replaced with hikes in the estate and conveyance taxes.

Now, the Senate adopted some rules that sound like they wanted to curb the “gut and replace” technique. Senate Rule 54(2) says, “The fundamental purpose of any amendment to a bill shall be germane to the fundamental purpose of the bill.” In practice, however, gut-and-replace is still alive and well, and a technique in the playbook of many of the House and Senate committee chairs. So, as our legislative session finally winds down, there will be lots of surprises such as bills previously thought dead being resurrected by incorporating their contents into other bills.

It ain’t over till it’s over, folks!

GRASSROOT INSTITUTE

President's Corner

by Dr. Keli'i Akina, President/CEO



At a time when many advocates of education reform are promoting greater local involvement in schools, Hawaii appears to be moving in the opposite direction.

The Aloha State is already unusual in the way it manages education. Generally throughout the country, state education departments supplement local property taxes in order to fund local schools. That means local school boards have a great deal of influence in school policy.

In Hawaii, however, power and money are centralized at the state level. Money for the school system is disbursed through the Legislature, and the state Department of Education calls the shots regarding school policy in Hawaii.

Of course, there are pros and cons to Hawaii’s system. Critics of the local-control model point out that funding schools through local property taxes can lead to significant disparities between schools in rich and poor areas. On the other hand, local control means more parental influence and community involvement in schools. It also can give educators more flexibility to innovate and improve performance in their districts.

The ideal may be a balance of local control and state influence, but a bill before the Hawaii legislature threatens to make such reform more difficult. The measure, SB2922, proposes an amendment to the Hawaii Constitution that would allow a surcharge on investment real property to fund education.

There are a number of issues with the bill, from the problematic nature of adding a special interest tax in the Constitution to the way it infringes on a power that previously belonged to the counties.

There’s also a strong likelihood that the surcharge will increase over time. As well, it’s likely it will affect the real estate market and drive up rents.

These issues have all been raised in testimony opposing the bill.

But few critics have looked at how it might hurt the cause of education reform. The proposed amendment gives the Legislature total authority over funding public education, creating a substantial bureaucratic and political barrier to reform.

Any effort to create more local control and funnel local taxes into district schools would require another constitutional amendment. In essence, this amendment would lock in the current system of education funding and strengthen centralized control of Hawaii’s schools. Those on the Big Island, Maui or Kauai who want a larger voice in education policy would continue to find themselves up against bureaucrats in Honolulu.

This isn’t an argument against improving schools, paying teachers well or providing better resources for students. Whether Hawaii needs more money for education and whether this is the right way to go about it are two different discussions. Responsible policymaking means asking ourselves what the unintended consequences of this amendment will be.

It’s a simple truth that in government policy, as with so many other things, influence follows the money. If Hawaii wants to reform education and pass more control to local educators and parents, then a measure that promotes centralized control is not the answer.

E hana kakou (Let’s work together!),



OLRW Political Action Committee

Campaign 2018

Our minimum goal for the this election is \$24000. We would like to be able to spend our PAC funds to help educate our candidates and to give generous contributions to candidates that are well organized and working hard. Reaching this goal is much easier than you might think. **We are asking every member to raise \$120.** This could include giving the money yourself or asking friends and family to help you meet your goal. \$120 over 2 years is equal to only \$5 per month.

OLRW PAC		15,500.00	15,550.00	15,600.00	15,650.00	15,900.00	16,000.00	17,000.00	17,500.00	17,900.00	18,000.00	18,228.00	18,500.00	19,000.00
Actual Vs Planned Goal														
Goal - 1000/mo														
Apr-18	\$18,228.35													

We are more than \$1770 behind our Goals for the year. Please look at your donations to date and think about how you can raise \$120 to help us reach our goal of \$24,000 by August.



Oahu League of Republican Women PAC is on FaceBook

Our Facebook feed is also visible on our PAC Website - WWW.OLRW PAC.com

Visit our online sites to see more information about our PAC and our candidates.

Our first Compliance class of 2018 was a success. In attendance were nine candidates, six candidate support people, six visitors and four volunteers. I want to thank Carol Thomas, Ione Gumpfer, Mary Monohon and Rita Kama-Kimura for helping with sign in and food preparation and Jane Tatibouet,

Shirlene Ostrov, Brett Kulbis, Gene Ward and Bob McDermott for stopping in to say hello.

This class teaches the basics of campaign law and gives tips on how campaigns can keep records and conduct themselves to stay out of trouble. Our target for this class is the core candidate committee-candidate, chair and treasurer, but it is helpful to anyone who is going to be heavily involved in a state or county campaign. Our members are welcome to attend. We have 2 classes left – April 28 and June 9. The class runs from 8:30 to 2:00 and includes coffee and rolls in the morning and a light lunch. You are responsible for parking, so carpooling is recommended.

Please sign up online at www.OLRW PAC.com or call me at 398-5556

PERSONAL Contributions Only Oahu League of Republican Women PAC

The following information helps us comply with campaign spending laws:

Individual Donor Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____ E-mail _____
 Employer & Occupation information is required for anyone contributing more than \$100 since November 6, 2012.
 Employer _____ Occupation _____ Retired

Political Action Committee or Company Contributions Only

Corporate Contributors - Do you have a contract with the State of Hawaii or any of its counties? Yes No
 PAC or Company Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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I am contributing
 \$ 25.00
 \$ 50.00
 \$100.00
 \$ _____

I'm paying by check Please make checks payable to Oahu League of Republican Women (OLRW)
 I'm paying by cash We are required to give you a receipt for a cash contribution of \$100 or more.

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NEWS





Getting Involved

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

Go to <http://www.olrw.org/GetInvolved.html> for more information

Letters to the Editor

Not With Hillary

MidWeek
April 4, 2018

Hillary's "over 2.8 Million votes" came from California and New York (Letters, "Still With Hillary," March 28), which isn't very representative of the rest of the country, is it?

Mrs Clinton didn't even bother with Michigan and Wisconsin, traditional Democrat strongholds.

Must have been those "deplorables" in the rest of the country who turned out for Trump or just to vote against Saint Hillary.

Carol R White

TRUE STORY (Well, at least my friend says it is.)

A guy goes into a bar in New York where all the bartenders are robots: The guy sits down at the bar & the robot asks: "Whats your drink? The guy says, "whiskey." The robot brings back his drink & asks, "What's your IQ?" The guy says, "168" The robot talks about physics, space exploration, electrical engineering & medical technology.

After the guy leaves, he pauses at the street corner & thinks about what He just encountered, & the more he thinks about it the more curious he gets, so he decides to go back.

The robot asks, "What's your drink?" The guy answers, "whiskey." The robot returns with his drink & asks, "What's your IQ?" This time the man replies, "100." The robot talks about Nascar, Budweiser, LSU & all-star wrestling.

The man finishes his drink, leaves, but is so fascinated with this robot that he decides he'll try again. He enters the bar &, as usual, the robot asks him "What's your drink?" The man again replies, "whiskey." The robot brings the drink & asks, "What's your IQ?" This time the man said, "50." The robot leans in real close & softly asks, "So. . . Are you people still unhappy that hillary lost?"

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A NEW EDITOR.

I have had the honor of Editing the OLRW newsletter for 10 of the last 12 years. It has been an interesting and educational process and it has kept me very busy.

I will be retiring from the newsletter with the December issue.

Please contact Carol if you are interested in taking on this important position or know someone that would be a good fit.

There is lots of time for training at this point, and time to find the right software to transfer all of the info from the current format to a new one.

The *Not Very* Funnies

You laugh, because if you didn't you would cry...

PRITCHETT



2017-18 OLRW Board of Directors

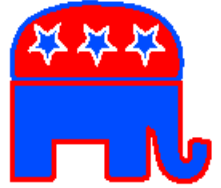
- Carol Thomas President
- Shirlene Ostrov First Vice President
- Celyn Chong Kee Second Vice President
- Jennifer Anderson Recording Secretary
- Gwen Honjo Treasurer
- Mela Kealoha- Lindsey Corresponding Secretary
- Helen Kekuna Membership
- Ione Gumpfer Volunteer Coordinator
- Pam Smith Newsletter/Webmaster
- Allan Silva Sergeant at Arms

Upcoming Events

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

Volunteer at HRP Headquarters

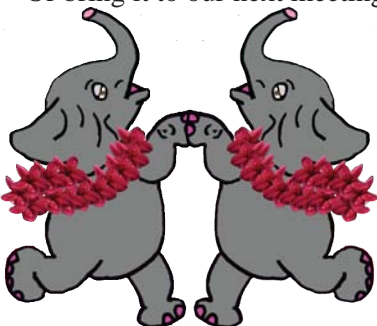
Call 593-8180 for more information and to get shift information.



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 \$35.00 Yearly \$200.00 Lifetime

* Your e-mail address will be added to our OLRW e-mail list for events and PAC requests.