

APRIL – JUNE 2023

Windward Oahu & Imiola Club News

Oahu Association for Family and Community Education

Written by Ruthie Haitsuka

Mark Your 2023 Calendars!

- July - No Meeting due to July 4th Holiday
- August 1 - WWO Council/Imiola Club Meeting – 9:00 am, Maly’s (Program: Barbara Sheeder)
- September 5 - WWO Council/Imiola Club Meeting – 9:00 am, Maly’s (Program: Annie Sagawa)
- October 3 - WWO Council/Imiola Club Meeting – 9:00 am, Maly’s (Program: Bernie Baker)
- November 7 - WWO Council/Imiola Club Meeting – 9:00 am, Maly’s (Program: David Haitsuka)
- December 5 - WWO Council/Imiola Club Meeting – 9:00 am, Maly’s (Program: Annual Party)

The above dates is subject to change. Watch email for updates.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

FRESH FLOWER ARRANGEMENT by Patricia Kubo



If you ever wanted to get fresh flowers and design a flower arrangement, Patricia Kubo’s hands on demonstration was an excellent. After describing the techniques of flower arrangement, she handed out to each member their flower kits (bunch of flowers, container for which the flowers were to be placed, extra enrichment pieces for accents, etc.). Pat explained that the container for which you want your flowers in shouldn’t be twice the size of the flower arrangement (centerpiece). Place your container on the table and visually see what height you want your flowers to be before cutting. One way to tell the height is the place the flowers against the side of the container to visually see the height of your arrangement. Flowers do not need to be arranged straight up and down. The arrangement should not have too many leaves, especially when placing the stem into the base of the arrangement. When cutting, cut your stems at an angle so that you have a point when inserting into the floral base and cut under water so that the water will stay up in the stems of the flowers. When placing your stems into the “oasis” (your oasis will be taller than the container’s edge), think before poking it in as to not have too many holes (if you have too many, your base oasis will crumble).

When creating a centerpiece for the table, you want it look great from all angles of the table. (If against a wall, then that's fine.) After deciding the main placement of your flower, begin adding the ferns slanted to arrangement and be sure to cover the edges of your container to hide the oasis and base of container. Continue to add flowers and leaves to complete arrangement. Pictures of members Patricia Kubo, Annie Sagawa, Jacquie Maly, Ruthie Haitsuka, Barbara Sheeder and Bernadette Baker.

EXCUSION TO BISHOP MUSEUM – PARLEY AIR STATION HAWAII



Jacquie Maly, who is a docent at the Bishop Museum, arranged for our members to visit the Parley Air Station Hawaii at the Bishop Museum. A young gentleman by the name of Joshua Gonzalez of Kaneohe was the presenter for the Parley Air Station Hawaii. This organization works with non-profit groups. Joshua emphasized the oceans cover the majority of the earth's surface, especially where we live in Hawaii. Every second breath that we take is generated by the ocean. When we think about oxygen and how we get oxygen, we think about photosynthesis, trees and forests. We have microbes and all sorts algae that photosynthesizes over 70% of the air we breathe. In Hawaii, it's 80% or more. Without the oceans being healthy, it's the major source of the air we breathe that is being affected and contaminated. We need to keep the oceans healthy. No oceans, no water, no air.

Problems affecting the oceans today. There are too much trash, plastics, climate change, over fishing, coral bleaching and others. Parley is trying to educate the public and change the society about its behavior. Plastic is everywhere. Nets, buoys, fish traps from the fishing industry. Most are single use containers. Also included are single use (use one time throw away) plastic wraps used for musubi. We throw it away, but where does it go? Hawaii does not recycle. Our recycled items was previously sent to China but they no longer take it. Indonesia now takes our plastics and make things with them such as sachet packets.

Microplastics, less than 3mm, (shown above) keep getting smaller and smaller. They get into the air, bloodstream, in our soil and vegetables. Lots of times you'll find them on beaches. Animals find them attractive. There are now rising cases of cancer. People eat these microplastics (the size of a credit card) each year. The sunlight hits the bottle and "bleaching" the bottle. Did you know that if you have a hot water plastic bottle, you should not drink out of it? If your car is very hot, do you know you should open your car doors and roll your windows down before driving off in it as your enclosed car constantly releases methane gases? Methane is much more potent greenhouse gas. The carbon dioxide makes the earth warmer and changes the

climate. Methane is four times more powerful than carbon dioxide per volume. By 2050, along with over fishing and producing more plastic, there are going to be more plastic by weight than fish in our oceans.

When talking about the Parley Air Station, they use the acronym is **Avoid – Intercept – Redesign**. We have heard about Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. What’s wrong with that? Recycling is not a solution. It’s something that we should do as we don’t want to keep making new plastics. We can’t keep endlessly recycling plastics. So we need to adopt their acronym – **Avoid** -not using plastic, avoiding purchasing items that are single use only, just avoid whenever possible. Awareness, changing your lifestyle. **Intercept** – get in the way of plastics. Before plastics and debris can wash on beaches – beach cleanups are one way. **Redesign** – (instead of recycle) – changing ideas and creating new things. Taking cigarette butts and making something that is multi use (pictured above) to get people’s attention.

For more information, you can goggle Parley Air Station Hawaii. As a side note, at the annual convention, Hilo Council is currently working with this organization to do a presentation on this topic as it connects with one of our HAFCE State Projects.

UPDATE CHARACTER COUNTS! @ WINNERS



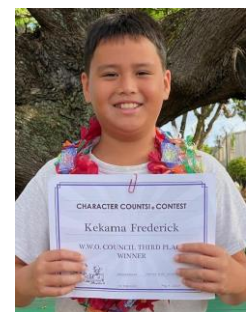
Catherine Hobson
1st Place WWO/2nd HAFCE



Hanalani 4th Graders



Kyouka Kim
2ND Place WWO



Kekama Frederick
3rd Place WWO

The above are photos of Windward Oahu Council’s winners in the CHARACTER COUNTS! ® Essay and Artwork contest. Awards were given to our winners and awarded each student for their participation by giving to their teachers \$50.00 for a pizza party or other means of rewarding their students for a job well done. Windward looks forward to participating again next year. Congratulations to Hanalani Schools and St. John Vianney!

JUAREZ, MEXICO MISSION TRIP PROJECT



Crafts are being made for the orphanage in Juarez, Mexico as well as the community church. Children will make their crafts and play games. Members will



be providing a number of games and prizes will be given out to the children. We are currently looking for small stuffed animals such as beanie babies, pencils, crayons, trinket prizes. The games are carnival type games such as ring toss, bean toss, add ‘em up, relay races using balloons and balls and others. The prizes will be given out at the end of the activities whereby children will select five different prizes and also receive an “Angel”. If you would have any items that you would like to donate, please contact David or Ruthie Haituka. Thank you.

DENISE SMITH'S QUILT TICKETS

Thank you all for sending your monies for the quilt that Denise is creating for this year's convention fundraiser for Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW). Those of you who would like to purchase more tickets (chances to win) can contact Denise Smith directly. All tickets have been sent to Denise as of this week. The quilt is called "Retro Aloha Shirts". We look forward Denise to seeing your beautiful artwork.

FUN CAMP WITH WINDWARD & SOUTH OAHU:



Windward and South Oahu Councils got together for a fun time to talk story, do crafts and of course, eat a delicious meal at Zia's (Jacquie Maly's favorite restaurant in Kaneohe). Pat had members play 5 number Bingo (Lynn Barut – Thank you for the idea) and Kathy Uehana and Wanda Lew provided a craft of flowers as shown in pictures provided. Kathy also made the paper boxes which had the supplies needed to make the flowers. As you can see, lots of laughter and a fun time together.



LOOKING AHEAD:



HAFCE State Convention will be held in Hilo, Hawaii on October 6 – 8, 2023. The hotel is the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel. Members are encourage to attend this FIRST IN PERSON event since COVID. If you are interested in attending, contact other members as they may be looking for a roommate to share costs. Remember, we will need a delegate to represent Windward Oahu Council and Imiola Club.

Jeanette Pang has been recovering from leg surgery and Rhoda Yoshino who has some health issues. We want both of you know that we miss having you at our meetings. Until you are stronger and can once again join us, please rest and take care. See you soon.



If you have any ideas on how to save food, cutting costs, recycling and other interesting ideas or places to visit, please come to our monthly meetings to share and this information will be passed on to the state vice president. Members have gained lots of new ideas to use in their daily lives.

Any suggestions or information for our newsletter is appreciated. Please send your article(s) to Ruthie so that she can compile for the quarterly ECHO (September 10, December 10).

In the meantime, stay safe, healthy and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting – August 1 @ 9:00 am at Jacquie Maly's home.