

March 2011 | Vol. 3, No. 3

## President's Message



Hawaii is made of many small businesses which are the backbone of Hawaii's economic structure. In the Honolulu Chapter, we have the pleasure of having a number of small businesses as member firms. This month, A Little Bit of Everything Gift Shop will be having a firm night featuring delightful items by owner, Valerie Kubota.

A Little Bit of Everything Gift Shop has "unique gifts for the special people in your life that show how much you appreciate them! Gifts that encompass all areas of life...areas that help us live a balanced life..." Some of the members in our chapter have had the pleasure of visiting Val's shop and its array of special gifts, spiritual and inspirational gifts for family, friends, career, and community. We are in for a special treat at this month's meeting.

I encourage other representatives to share their companies with the rest of the chapter so we have a better insight of where you work and what your firm is about. It is a great way to network and extend you and your company to everyone. We had the pleasure of learning about Vernelle's firm, AMEC Earth and Environmental, at our February meeting.

Thank you Val for sharing A Little Bit of Everything Gift Shop with us. Personally, I have so much fun browsing and shopping in your store and I know other members will too!

Warmest Aloha,

*Shelley T. Okubo*

President  
EWI of Honolulu 2010-2011

### EWI® Mission and Vision

#### Mission

Executive Women International is an organization which brings together key individuals from diverse businesses for the purpose of promoting member firms, enhancing personal and professional development, and encouraging community involvement.

#### Vision

To Be the Leading Connection for Business Professionals.

## CHAPTER BOARD

**Shelley Okubo**, President  
Aqua Hotels & Resorts

**Tracy Wong**, VP/President-elect  
Insurance Solutions LLC

**Ada Iwasaki**, Secretary  
SH Consulting LLC

**Lauralei Tanaka**, Treasurer  
HTH Corporation

**Mary Ann Sullivan**, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Current Affairs

**Pattie Furtado**, Membership Director  
Outrigger Enterprises Group

**Maegan Brandt**, Program Director  
Insurance Solutions LLC

**Miki Hwang**,  
Communications & Marketing Director  
Cowabunga! Computers

**Cathy Iwai**, Ways & Means Director  
Ito Healthcare Group

**Cora Kim**, EWISP Director-at-Large  
Hawaii Prince Hotel Waikiki

## APPOINTED POSITIONS

**Sherilyn Tamayose**, Advisor  
First Hawaiian Bank

**Brenda Kanno**, Bylaws/Parliamentarian  
Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i

**April Tengan**, ASIST Chair  
Hawaii Medical Service Association

**Fay Kauanoe**, Philanthropy Chair  
Seasons Quest Insurance & Financial Services

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# A Little Bit of Everything Firm Night

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

A Little Bit of Everything is a speciality gift shop featuring unique gifts for the special people in your life. Gifts that you feel good about giving. Gifts that show people how much you appreciate them! If you or a special person in your life needs a little support, encouragement, love or inspiration....we have the perfect gift for them!!!



After a 25-year career in banking, A Little Bit of Everything is my dream, my step out in faith. A Little Bit of Everything has been my platform to share my faith, passion for meeting and helping people and my community. I've worked hard to create a place where people want to come, share, give and help each other. I'm excited to share my journey with you! I'm grateful for this opportunity!



*-Val Kubota*

## Honolulu Chapter Board Meeting Highlights

**Wednesday, January 26, 2011**

**Insurance Solutions, Suite 1711 Conference Room**

### **Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of the November 17, 2010 Board of Directors meeting were approved as published.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

A motion was made and seconded to accept the January 2011 disbursements.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **ASIST**

- no report.

### **Communications and Marketing**

- Articles for the March newsletter are due by Wednesday, February 9, 2011.

### **EWISP**

- Judges for the business and community sectors have been secured.
  - Business sector judge: Elisa Yadao, VP of Community Relations, HMSA
  - Community sector judge: Jody Shiroma Perreira, VP of Marketing and Communications and acting COO, Aloha United Way.
- Interviews will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. at the Hawaii Prince Hotel Waikiki.

### **Membership**

- 42 Member Firms (as of January 21, 2011)
- 46 Representatives
- 2 Sustaining Members
- 1 Life Chapter Member
- Application and check for the Plaza Club has been received.

### **Philanthropy**

- Bingo at the Pearl City Nursing Home is scheduled for Saturday, February 5, 2011.
- Details for the Aloha United Way campaign packaging project and the Reading Rally are pending and will be announced at a later date.

### **Program**

- The March meeting will be a firm night at A Little Bit of Everything.
- The April meeting will be a wellness fair and will be held at the Sheraton Princess Kaiulani Hotel.

### **Sergeant-at-Arms**

- There were 34 representatives, 4 guests, and 8 no-shows at the December 1, 2010 business meeting held at Iolani Sportswear.
- 77% member representative attendance compared to 59% in December 2009.
- There were 30 representatives, 3 guests and 8 no-shows at the January 12, 2011 business meeting held at the Neal S. Blaisdell Center.
- 71% member representative attendance compared to 60% in January 2010.

**Ways & Means**

- The tournament date has been confirmed for Friday, September 9, 2011 at the Hawaii Prince Golf Club.
- Honorary Co-Chairs are Gordon Ito, Ito Healthcare Group, and Allen Uyeda, First Insurance Company of Hawaii.

**Unfinished Business:**

- President Shelley Okubo will contact Naoi Yuen to finalize the contract with Hawaii Self Storage. Chapter records, golf signs, banners, and posters will be placed in storage.
- Ad Hoc "Wine Tasting Event"
  - Lauralei Tanaka presented a reconciliation of the Red, White and Brew joint fundraising event with Hawaii Literacy. Net profit from the event was \$8,598.40.

**New Business:**

- EWI Marketing Video – Tracy Wong will present a proposal to membership from Alphamedia Corporation to create a 5-8 minute video for promotional purposes. The video would be used as a recruiting tool for membership and as an introduction at our scholarship dinners. The video would include interviews with judges, recipients, executives, representatives, and past scholarship awardees. Portions of the video could be uploaded to our chapter website.
- ASIST Chair – April Tengan has been appointed as ASIST Chair due to the resignation of Naomi Amuro.

**Announcements:**

- The next membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at Stage Restaurant.
- The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 23, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at the Insurance Solutions Conference Room.

**Adjournment:** 7:12 p.m.

**Important Dates**

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| March 9:  | Business meeting 5:30pm at A Little Bit of Everything    |
| March 30: | Board of Directors meeting 5:30pm at Insurance Solutions |
| April 13: | Membership dinner meeting 5:30pm                         |



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

## EWI Planned Giving Program “A Gift From the Heart”

- The Planned Giving Program is a program which allows you to give back to the organization that you love and help fund the philanthropic side {501 (c) (3)} which gives scholarships (EWISP, ASIST, Fellows) and assist with literacy initiatives. In addition “A Gift From the Heart” Program invites our families, friends, associates, and our communities to support EWI’s mission to help grant scholarships, help with literacy initiatives, and enhance personal and professional development.
- Many people give to organizations such as the American Cancer Society and The Humane Society because they have a connection with that organization. We definitely have a connection with EWI, and now there is a program that will help you give back to the organization you love and help EWI leave a legacy for the future.
- There are many ways individuals can give; donations in their wills, life insurance policies, annuities, a straight donation, an honorarium or memorial. EWI is set up to receive donations at all levels.
- Honorarium & memorials will be posted on the website for one year.
- Anyone who gives \$25 or more will be part of the Planned Giving Club. Donations are cumulative. For example, if someone gives \$100 this year, and then \$100 for the next ten years, that person will move to the next level of the club after the tenth donation.
- If you do not have a financial planner and have questions regarding financial planning, Gerry Frantz (EWI of Denver) will be happy to answer questions for the US, and Jo-Anne Mancini (EWI of Detroit Windsor) will be happy to answer questions for the Canadians. See emails and numbers below.
- For further information:
  - Diana Larsen (Chair) – [diana.larsen@gray-robinson.com](mailto:diana.larsen@gray-robinson.com) – (407) 843-8880 Ext. 6355
  - Gerry Frantz – [geraldine\\_frantz@glic.com](mailto:geraldine_frantz@glic.com) – (303) 714-5855
  - Jo-Anne Mancini – [jmancini@pmc5.com](mailto:jmancini@pmc5.com) – (519) 977-7755 Ext. 223
  - Diane Kidwell – [dkidwell@heartaruw.org](mailto:dkidwell@heartaruw.org) – (401) 376-4567 Ext. 26
  - Karen Thompson – [karen.thompson@securian.com](mailto:karen.thompson@securian.com) – (651) 665-3695
  - Lynne Shaffer – [lynne@ewiconnect.com](mailto:lynne@ewiconnect.com) – (877) 439-4669
- If you are interested in learning more about the EWI Planned Giving Program, please visit the EWI corporate website:  
[http://www.executivewomen.org/ScriptContent/community/comm\\_plannedgiving.cfm](http://www.executivewomen.org/ScriptContent/community/comm_plannedgiving.cfm)

## Bingo Day at Pearl City Nursing Home!

*By Sheri Tamayose*

The Philanthropy Committee held an enjoyable game event at The Pearl City Nursing Home (PCNH) on Saturday, February 5, 2011. There were 20-25 elderly patients playing Bingo. With the assistance of the nursing staff and activities coordinator, Jim Baker, EWI volunteers participated in an hour of fun. Some visiting family members of patients also attended. Ronnie Kauanoë, son of member representative, Fay Kauanoë served as the emcee at game time churning out the winning numbers at the ball machine. Ronnie did a wonderful job!

EWI of Honolulu has been sponsoring this community service event annually over the years. PCNH is part of EWI member firm, Ito Healthcare Group. PCNH is a nursing home that provides intermediate and skilled level of care services. The chapter is proud to support a member firm, Ito Healthcare Group and Pearl City Nursing Home.

All the patients won a prize and most importantly, they exercised their minds, used their motor skills and shared some laughter and excitement of playing. At the conclusion of the visit everyone shared a heartwarming farewell and felt that this short time together made a difference in the lives of all! This is what it's all about!

A big mahalo to the people who generously donated the game prize giveaways - Shelley Okubo, April Tengan (courtesy of HMSA), Leona Hee, Jana Moniz, and friends Brookes Phillips and Beulah Olanolan, Wanda Sanchez, Sheri Tamayose and anonymous EWI member representatives!



*Left to right standing:* Fay Kauanoë, Jana Moniz, Joyce Nishimura, Cathy Iwai, Shelley Okubo, Ronnie Kauanoë, Kyle Chikazawa, Caitlin Nishimura, Wanda Sanchez, Kody Uratsuka, Kylie Uratsuka, Nadine Uratsuka, Konner Uratsuka, Leona Hee, Brenda Kanno. *Kneeling:* Sheri Tamayose.

## “Lunch Bunch” Networking

*By Sheri Tamayose*

On Wednesday, February 9, 2011, some of the EWI of Honolulu member representatives gathered together at the Honolulu Café located in the Dillingham Transportation on Bishop Street in downtown Honolulu for delicious food and networking. After introductions, the topics of conversation included business connections, EWI, and getting to know one another. It was an hour well spent and the “EWI downtowners” look forward to the next luncheon!

The next Lunch Bunch is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 12:00pm. We will meet at Bank of Hawaii Executive Dining Room on the 6<sup>th</sup> Floor. This luncheon is open to all so please feel free to let Wanda Sanchez know if you are interested.



From left to right: Cora Kim, Pattie Furtado, Sheri Tamayose, Jana Moniz and Wanda Sanchez.

# Mahalo Karen!



Brenda Kanno, Karen Skirten, and Shelley Okubo

On Wednesday, January 12, 2011, EWI Honolulu Chapter had the pleasure of hosting Karen Skirten, Corporate Director of Marketing. Karen shared the vision of the Corporate Board and enlightened the members of her goals as the Corporate Director of Marketing. President Shelley Okubo thanked Karen for taking time from her Hawaiian vacation to speak to the Chapter.



EWI Honolulu Chapter members with Karen Skirten, EWI Corporate Director of Marketing



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**Executive Women International®  
Honolulu Chapter  
Wednesday, March 9, 2011**

**Please join us at the March meeting featuring,  
A Little Bit of Everything Firm Night!**



**THE GALERIE AT THE IMPERIAL PLAZA  
725 Kapiolani Blvd, C111, Ground Floor**

**5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Networking & Registration  
6:00 p.m. Dinner & Presentation**

**Heavy Pupu Menu**

Chicken Katsu, Kal Bi, Mandoo, Assorted Sushi,  
Veggie Platter and Dessert

**Cost: \$30 per person  
Free parking**

**Please R.S.V.P. if you will NOT be attending, or if you are bringing a guest,  
to Vernelle Kam-McElfresh by noon, Wednesday, March 2, 2011 via e-mail  
to [Vernelle.Mcelfresh@amec.com](mailto:Vernelle.Mcelfresh@amec.com) or call 808-732-9666 ext. 222.**

**A standing reservation is made for every representative at all EWI monthly  
meetings. It is your responsibility to inform the Sergeant-At-Arms by  
email or telephone by the RSVP deadline if you are not able to attend.  
You will be billed for any missed meetings unless prior notice is received.**



## **Directions to** **A Little Bit of Everything**

### **HOW TO FIND US**

We are located at 725 Kapiolani Blvd, C111, at the Galerie in the Imperial Plaza.

Phone: (808) 589-0045

### **PARKING**

The parking entrance is located on Kawaihao Street.

Take a left off of Kapiolani Blvd. to Cooke Street. Take the next left on to Kawaihao Street. The parking entrance will be immediately to your left. Park in any stall marked "Customer" and follow the arrows to "Shops". We are located on the ground floor.



# Zumba!

Zumba has been on the minds of some of our EWI sisters since early January of this year. Lois Asato, of member firm Hawaii Convention Center, has let us in on a wonderful way to stay healthy and fit and have fun while doing it. Every Tuesday and Thursday at 5:00pm, the staff of HCC have been enjoying Zumba classes, instructed by Dawn Kattengell, a 20+ year veteran in the health and fitness industry. Now HCC has opened up this energizing class to the entire EWI membership. Some of the regulars who have been attending are Leona Hee, Cathy Iwai, Fay Kauanoë, Michelle Nakahara, and Renee Suzuki. Classes are only \$5.00 per session, payable in cash each time you attend and the parking is validated by HCC. Wow! A convenient location, easy parking with free validation, and a fun way to stay in shape! Join us for Zumba! For more information, contact Lois Asato at [lasato@hccsmg.com](mailto:lasato@hccsmg.com).



Lois Asato, Leona Hee, Cathy Iwai, and Fay Kauanoë



Lois Asato, Fay Kauanoë, Dawn Kattengell, instructor, and Cathy Iwai



Leona Hee, Lois Asato, Fay Kauanoë, Dawn Kattengell, instructor, and Cathy Iwai