

## Letter from President



Aloha,

September and October are very active months for the EWI of Honolulu board and member representatives. Our annual golf tournament took place on August 27. The September 8 dinner meeting will be a combined membership drive and member firm night event as well as a support effort for the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Chapter delegates are off to Kansas City, Missouri to attend the Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting (LCAM) on September 23-25. Board members are preparing to transition their chapter responsibilities over to the next board that will be installed on October 13. October 30 is our chapter's Reading Rally at the Kahala Mall.

It is amazing to see our colleagues hard at work to make all these events possible to add value and service to our chapter membership. It is extremely heart warming to see that many of you put service to others before self in accomplishing the EWI mission!

Warmest Mahalo,

*Sheri Tamayose*

President

EWI of Honolulu 2009-2010

### **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

**Sherilyn K. Tamayose**, President  
First Hawaiian Bank

**Shelley Okubo**, VP/President-elect  
Aqua Hotels & Resorts

**Zenaida Caraang**, Secretary  
Remington College

**Lauralei Tanaka**, Treasurer  
HTH Corporation

**Cora Kim**, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Hawaii Prince Hotel Waikiki

**Naomi Amuro**, Membership Director  
Aloha United Way

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

**Michelle Shihara**  
Communications & Marketing Director  
Sheraton Hotels in Waikiki

**Nohea Sgan**, Ways & Means Director  
City Mill Company, Ltd.

**June Takekawa**  
EWISP Director-at-Large  
Island Movers, Inc.

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# You're Invited!

The Prudential  
Insurance Company  
of America

Susan G. Komen for  
the Cure Hawaii



CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

EWI Honolulu Chapter is proud to announce a special dinner meeting featuring The Prudential Insurance Company of America and the Susan G. Komen For the Cure Hawaii on Wednesday, September 8, 2010. This meeting will focus on women's financial and physical health and well-being. Through the generosity of The Prudential Insurance Company of America, this will also serve as a membership drive event to educate prospective member firms about EWI Honolulu Chapter. Please join us at the Honolulu Country Club!

5:30 p.m.  
Networking

6:00 p.m.  
Welcome

Dinner

Presentations by:  
Susan G. Komen For the Cure Hawaii  
The Prudential Insurance Company of America  
EWI Honolulu Chapter

Through a generous relationship with The Prudential Insurance Company of America, the cost for this event is \$10 for member firm representatives and executives; Complimentary for prospective member firm representatives and executives (RSVP required)

If you will not be attending or if you are bringing a guest please RSVP to Cora Kim by *Noon, Wednesday September 1<sup>st</sup>* via e-mail [chkim@hiprince.com](mailto:chkim@hiprince.com) or 943-4147.

**Prospective members:** Please contact Naomi Amuro by *Noon, Wednesday September 1<sup>st</sup>* via e-mail [naomi@auw.org](mailto:naomi@auw.org) or 543-2209 to RSVP.

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

Presenting at this seminar is Shelia Callum. She is executive director of the Susan G. Komen For the Cure Hawaii, which is separate from and unaffiliated with the Prudential Insurance Company of America. Prudential does not endorse or recommend the advice of Shelia Callum. The statements made by Shelia Callum at this seminar are solely her own and Prudential expresses no opinion with regard to them.

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## Honolulu Chapter Board Meeting Highlights

**Wednesday, July 28, 2010**

**First Hawaiian Bank, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**

President Sherilyn Tamayose called the board meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of the June 30, 2010 Board of Directors Meeting were approved as published.

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

As of June 2010, account balances (unaudited) were as follows:

General Operating Account:	\$62,574.31
B/C/DP Account:	\$39,895.87

### **Communications:**

- Maegan Brandt from member firm, Insurance Solutions LLC, is the new Program Director, replacing Joann Shigeta from Central Pacific Bank. Joann recently submitted her letter of resignation from EWI as a representative as well as a member firm.
- The EWI of Honolulu 2009 financial review has been completed and officially sent to EWI Corporate.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **ASIST**

- The awards dinner was inspiring for all in attendance.
- Treasurer Lauralei Tanaka asked for a listing of award recipients and their monetary awards for the Treasurer for accounting purposes.

### **Communications and Marketing**

- The Board was asked to review the current website and to send all edits and updates to Susan Tanigawa by August 13, 2010.

### **EWISP**

- No report.

### **Membership**

- Prospective Firms
  - Laser Eye Center of Hawaii (Val Ishihara) was not able to attend the last meeting but sent in a reimbursement check.
  - Goodsill Anderson Quinn & Stifel (Kimberly Koide) attended the last meeting and is pending notification.
- The September membership meeting will be a collaboration between Program, Membership (Seasons Quest – Prudential) and Philanthropy (Susan G. Komen Foundation.) Members met on July 27<sup>th</sup> to plan this meeting Prudential will be hosting \$25 of the meeting cost for all attendees. Naomi Amuro distributed a sample of the meeting flyer and a letter to be sent to prospective firms inviting them to attend this meeting to familiarize themselves with EWI.

### **Philanthropy**

- At the July 14<sup>th</sup> membership meeting, school supplies and cash were collected for the Princess Kaiulani Elementary School. The \$250 collected purchased additional supplies from Fisher Hawaii. The supplies were delivered on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Program**

- Next membership meeting: August 11<sup>th</sup> at the Oahu Country Club at \$35 per person. Guest speaker Derek Kurisu from KTA Super Stores on "The Power of Positive Thinking."
- September meeting: September 8<sup>th</sup> at the Honolulu Country Club. It will be a membership drive as well as a focus on the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Cost to member reps will be \$10 per person; Guests will be hosted by Prudential.
- October meeting: TBA
- November meeting: Maegan will look into a tentative venue for this meeting even though the wine tasting fundraiser is slated at that time. The Board is still awaiting the written binding agreement proposal for this fundraiser to confirm terms and conditions between EWI and Hawaii Literacy Foundation.

**Sergeant-at-Arms**

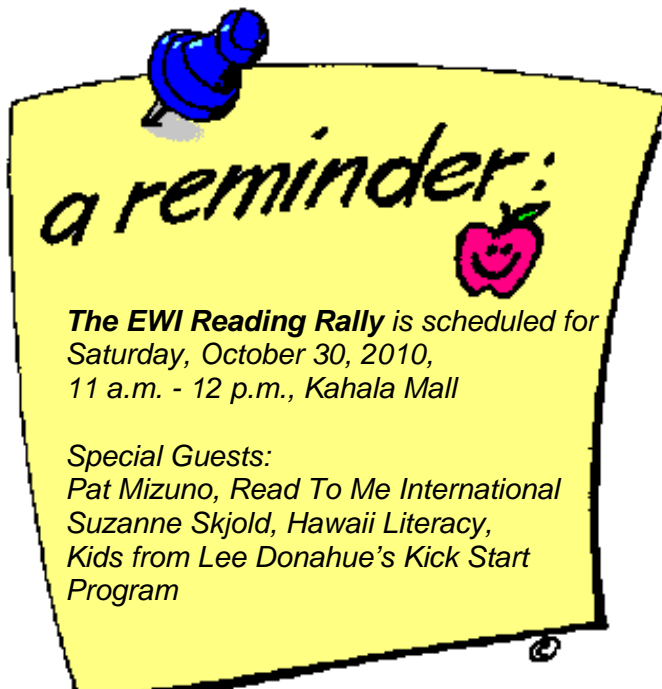
- There were 18 member representatives, 1 guest and 2 no shows at the June 9<sup>th</sup> membership meeting held at the Moana Surfrider Hotel – a Westin Resort.
- 36% member representative attendance compared to last year's 61%.

**Ways & Means**

- We are still looking for golf teams and committee will be asking The Hawaii Prince Golf Club for consideration if the 144 minimum golfers is not met.

**Announcements:**

- The next membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 11, 2010 at 5:30p.m. at the Oahu Country Club.
- The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 1, 2010 at 5:30p.m. at First Hawaiian Bank, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room.

**Happy Birthday!**

Michelle Shihara	Sept. 1
Susan Tanigawa	Sept. 5
Tessa Ahsing	Sept. 6
Leona Hee	Sept. 13
Nadine Uratsuka	Sept. 14
Zenaida Caraang	Sept. 19
Shelley Okubo	Sept. 20
Valerie Tanaka	Sept. 30
Kathleen Yoshinaga	Sept. 30

## August Membership Meeting By: Maegan Brandt, Insurance Solutions, LLC

The August membership meeting was held at the beautiful Oahu Country Club on Wednesday, August 11, 2010.

President Sheri Tamayose welcomed members and introduced guests. Guests include: Lisa Michele Fonseca, a life coach (guest of Val Tanaka), Lei Ahsing, Hawaii Arts Alliance (sister of Tessa Ahsing), Valerie Ishihara, Laser Eye Center of Hawaii (guest of Naomi Amuro) & Neal Nakashima from the Outrigger Enterprises Group.

The “Thought of the Day” was given by Brenda Kanno, representative for The Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii.

Brenda expressed that everyone possesses potential, insight, genius, and creativity. It’s all just waiting to be released. Sometimes, in order for change and shift to happen, we need to review or walk back over some of the stepping stones of life.

Doreen Tavares, representative for the Pacific Business News said her farewell as this evening was her last EWI meeting as a representative. Leianne Pedro will replace Doreen Tavares. Thank you to Julie Loo, Susan Tanigawa, Cathy Iwai, & Kay Sasaki for the beautiful display of gratitude and appreciation as they “roasted” Doreen. We wish her the best of luck in her retirement and we will miss her so.

Dinner consisted of a savory assortment of heavy “pupus,” while lively conversations filled the room.

After dinner, Maegan Brandt introduced our guest speaker Derek Kurisu, Executive VP at KTA Super Stores and creator of Mountain Apple Brand. A successful businessman and community leader, Mr. Kurisu has been employed at KTA Super Stores for more than 38 years. Mr. Kurisu has been described as a homegrown ambassador for Hawaii. He says his goals are to make the Big Island and the State of Hawaii the greatest place on Earth and to have Hawaii products available throughout the world. He is also a media star who has two television programs on local cable called Seniors Living in Paradise and Living in Paradise. He also is a popular motivational speaker, doing about 50 engagements a year

Whether it’s thousands at an exhibition or an intimate room full of EWI women, Mr. Kurisu feels comfortable speaking in front of his audiences. The wild, unpredictable comments, his life’s lessons shared all are filled with humor and expressiveness. You never know what he’s going to do or say. But you can never forget his messages.

### **Messages shared:**

“If you’re living in the islands, you gotta know customer service.”

“I sit in front of KTA for hours, observing customers, their facial expressions and behavior. I realize customers look for more than service, price, variety and cleanliness in our store.” They’re mainly interested in, “What am I going to eat tonight? What am I going to bring to the party? What am I going to cook for my son’s excursion tomorrow?” he recites.

“The purpose of being in business is to solve people’s problems. If we can’t solve their problems, they won’t come back,” he says.

This preoccupation with customer needs is a major sacrifice, Kurisu admits.

Customer service must be an organization's top priority and strength, Kurisu says seriously.

"When people work as a team in the area of strengths, it becomes one big awesome, unbeatable and unstoppable organization."

That's the way it is at KTA Super Stores, home of 750 employees, business partners, and associates.

**Greatest Business Accomplishment:** The creation of Mountain Apple Brand products. It is a private label that currently has over 285 items and 80 business partnerships.

Product shared that evening was a papaya-guava nectar called PAVA. Kurisu is involved in guiding this locally made juice to market. It was developed by students of his alma mater, University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture. The enterprising students made use of discarded off-grade papaya and guava not sold in stores. "It's based on the plantation principle of turning waste into something of value," Kurisu says. "A little imagination is helping agriculture."

### Philanthropy School Supply Drive Update.....

The school supplies collected by EWI were delivered to Bridget Kanakaole at Princess Victoria Kaiulani Elementary School in Kalihi. In total, there were 14 boxes of supplies! Because many of the students are from low-income families, Bridget said the supplies were very much appreciated and would be used by the children in the school in the classrooms. The students will not be allowed to take them home.

Princess Victoria Kaiulani Elementary School has also recently been adopted by a Rotary Club, which has developed a program with Hawaii Foodbank to pack and distribute bags of food each week for their students to take home.

*Through your generosity we have achieved much for these children.....As Walt Disney said, "many hands, hearts, and minds generally contribute to notable achievements."*

Mahalo to all of you!

April Tengan  
Philanthropy Chair 2009-2010

## Aloha and Thank You, Doreen Tavares!

After 16 years representing Pacific Business News, our good friend Doreen Tavares is stepping down as representative. She has contributed much to EWI both at the chapter and corporate level. She was chapter president in 2000 and corporate membership advisor in 2001-2002. Doreen was recognized at the August meeting with the following "Doreen's Top Ten List and More" presented by Julie Loo.



### TONIGHT'S TOP 10 – The Joys and Agonies of Being Doreen's Friend and Fellow EWI Member

10. When she is missing from an EWI meeting you know that the venue was out of her comfort zone...won't even go to Manoa for dinner unless she gets a ride..Waialae Country Club..where's that!! No strange places for her. When she moved to Mililani we were worried we would never see her again or she wouldn't find her way home!
9. Want a Debbie Macomber book? See Doreen..she has them all! She has to knit a few rows and read a few pages of Debbie Macomber before falling asleep.
8. After a PBN event you won't see her for two days as she goes into hibernation!
7. Don't expect to see her two evenings in a week...only one outing weekly. At her age it's exhausting!
6. When on trips with Doreen be sure to Google the burger joints... Doreen loves to eat exotic gourmet foods as long as it is meat and potatoes. Her all time favorite... Her specialty dish at the Pineapple room .. grilled cheese sandwich with fries from the keiki menu. Travel with her...she will iron all your clothes!
5. Don't plan anything after 8pm...it's her bedtime
4. Sit next to Doreen on the plane...she has the best goodie bags that Francis and she packs.
3. Our knitted luggage tags.....made by Doreen!
2. Need someone to proof your work or "spice" it up....evil eye Doreen....she catches it all!

And the #1 Joy or Agony of being Doreen's friend and fellow EWI member:

1. It's pure joy! We all have similar stories about when we first joined EWI and Doreen being our guardian angel in making us feel so welcome. She took all of us under her wing. She did just that for me when I joined back in 1994. Mentored me then and still teaches me good life lessons and is always there when I need a shoulder. I love her dearly and cannot think of not ever being her friend.

Kay Sasaki shares:

On a more serious note, when I first joined EWI, my exec (Butch Beck) and I went to one of our first meetings. It was at The Honolulu Club, the night of the Convention (yes or no) vote and all the rest that went along with that evening. I was then still shy, nervous and actually quite scared about joining EWI. I was so impressed by how she handled the situation and emotions as was Butch. At that moment I knew I wanted to stay in the organization and "become just like Doreen." I haven't even come close to being just like her but hope to some day to get near.

Susan Tanigawa shares some of the same sentiments and adds she is a very warm person and makes you feel quite at home. She keeps in touch with so many of our EWI friends who have left EWI for one reason or another. Keeps us all connected.

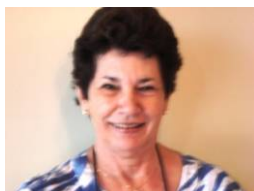
Cathy Iwai shares she is a very special lady and BFF to all of us. Very compassionate, caring and supportive friend that makes everyone feel comfortable when they first meet her.

We all have similar stories to share, lots of laughs, and most of all we are so glad to have met you, Doreen....glad you are in our lives...we are better for knowing you and look forward to many more years as BFFs! EWI will miss you but we know you will not be far away and will continue to be connected!

## EWI CONNECT – SEPT. ISSUE - ROVING REPORTER

This month, we asked a few representatives:

***If you could have any type of super power what would it be and why?***



### **Doreen Tavares – Pacific Business News**

My super power would have allowed me to bring my mother from heaven to that meeting last night. She was already in the serious stages of dementia in 2000 when I was the Honolulu chapter president, and though she didn't understand or know what I was doing, I shared my experiences with her as the year progressed. Last night she would have understood everything.

*....side note: At the August meeting, Doreen was honored for her many contributions to the chapter. In September, she steps down as representative for Pacific Business News after 16 years of service including chapter president and Corporate membership advisor.*

### **Brenda Kanno – The Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii**

Hmm ... bringing harmony and happiness to everyone. Happy people are infectious and harmony will make the world a better place so life will always be good for all of us!



### **Fay Kauanoë – Seasons Quest Insurance & Financial Services**

My super power would be the ability to make everyone kind to each other. So the world would be a better place.

### **June Takekawa – Island Movers, Inc.**

I would like to have the super power to fly....fly like a bird. I would feel free and could get to places quickly and could even "save" people in trouble!



### **Pattie Furtado – Outrigger Enterprises Group**

If I had a super power it would be Super Strength of Mind because with that power you conquer any challenges that come your way –

## **Important Dates**

August 27:	EWI Golf Tournament, Hawaii Prince Golf Course
September 8:	Membership Meeting, Honolulu Country Club
September 15:	Deadline to submit articles for October Connect
September 23 – 25:	LCAM, Kansas City, MO
October 13:	Installation of new board members
October 30:	Reading Rally, Kahala Mall