Official Newsletter of the Hawaii Association for Family and Community Education

Volume 41 Issue 2

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Go Paperless! ~170 FCE members have chosen to receive the Homemaker Echo via email. Please consider joining them bv contacting me so that I can add your name to the email list. You will receive the Echo in COLOR and weeks before the USPS issue. This also saves HAFCE in mailing costs and it saves a few more trees for а healthy environment.

Send your email address for a paperless delivery to:

Denise Smith Homemaker Echo Editor

cdsmith2139@gmail.com

650 969-3422

Aloha everyone! Can't imagine half of the year is nearly gone - isn't it just flying by?

In Hilo Martha & Liz are busy with their team getting everything for our state convention in October. They have some very exciting things planned. So if you are thinking of coming to Hilo, I hope you will confirm your plans & join us! We look forward to hosting you & seeing all of you again.

Oarlene Wingate our HAFCE Parliamentarian, founding member of Hoaloha FCE Club, National &

State FCE past President, is moving to Oregon. Her husband has been there setting up house while Oarlene closed up her business in Hilo awaiting daughter Shelley's completion of her school year at Kea'au High School.

The Hoaloha Club hosted a farewell luncheon for Oarlene & Shelley & a good amount of Hilo members attended. The food was fabulous - what a delicious assortment & the friendship & warmth abound. There were several beautiful handmade quilts presented to Oarlene. They were just lovely & you could just see all the love that went into making them.

Oarlene brought her dear mother Margaret to the luncheon & I had the honor of sitting next to her. She was so touched to see how everyone was so fond of Oarlene & how sad everyone was to see her leaving. She was impressed to realize how much Oarlene is loved & kept repeating it as well as what a wonderful group of women this organization had. I assured her how true that is & what an asset Oarlene has been to all of us. We will truly miss her & Shelley. I was assured though she will be away; she will continue as our parliamentarian & will return to attend our convention. She will also continue to attend board meetings via Skype. A hui hou my dear friend. We will all miss you very much. Good luck on your new found residence. Be sure to come back often!!

We have lost two of our FCE sisters this year. In February Donna Chong lost her battle with cancer. A member of the Imiola Club of the Windward Council, Donna had so much spirit. She battled cancer with her tough & caring attitude.

Donna enjoyed playing the ukulele & guitar & won the Brown Bags to Stardom. She played the ukulele for us at the convention on Oahu two years ago & assisted us in many ways. She was a great member - full of life & always offering her help. We send our prayers & aloha to her mom Jackie Chong, also an FCE Imiola member as well as to her family.

And in May we lost Charlotte Muraoka of the Hui O Makani FCE Club, also of the Windward Council. Charlotte was a very active member. She was the first recipient of the "Spirit of FCL" award in 1998. She was instrumental in founding the Hui O Makani FCE Club of which she had been a member for 50 years in 2014. Charlotte enjoyed Ikebana (of which she was also a member of 50 years) & loved to watch her Korean dramas. She will truly be missed.



President's message continued

On a much less somber note, I have just received word that Katsuko "Kats" Enoki has been selected the National "Spirit of FCL" winner. Congratulations Kats!! You are so deserving. Kats will be attending the National FCE Conference in Blue Springs, Missouri together with me & Pasita Pladera in July to receive her award in person.

So many talented & hardworking women we have as our FCE members. I am so honored to be a part of your team in FCE. Keep up all the good work you are doing & know how much you are appreciated.

Sally Bowman From the Editor A Reminder HAFCE President The deadline for articles for the next issue of The Homemaker Echo is: September 10th Please send articles and photos to: cdsmith2139@gmail.com OR 433 Sylvan Ave. spc 39 Mountain View, CA 94041 OR (650) 969-3422 (leave a message if I'm not at home) Aloha, Deníse Smíth

Alice Clark

Interview by Patricia Kubo

Alice Clark was honored at the 2013 HAFCE convention by becoming an Honorary Member of HAFCE. We were not able to learn very much about Alice at that time and as one of the writers of our Hawaii FCE Creed, we should know more about her. At a lunch with Alice Clark and Natalie Oda-Lee, I asked Alice questions about what her U.E. Club was like and about the Homemaker's Creed.

Alice Clark, Mabel Keesling and Rae Ross, members of the Kainalu U.E. Club, got together over coffee at Alice's home and wrote the Hawaii Homemaker's Creed. They were asked to write something and Alice said they laughed and joked a lot as they came up with the words. Alice remembers that Rae was a minister's wife and that she was a Travel Agent. This was during the years that our organization, HAFCE was known as the Hawaii Extension Homemaker's Council.

Alice recalled that their club was a very close knit group that shared maternity clothes and baby clothes. Kainalu U.E., located in Kailua, Hawaii, was one of the largest U.E. clubs and they even had a waiting list to join their group. At that time, it was way out in the "country" and there were not many social activities. One member that they invited to join was Dr. Jacqueline Maly.

Alice's husband, Bruce, and Jacquie's husband, Ted, were friends. Alice invited Jacquie to be a guest speaker from the Windward Community College. Alice fondly remembers Christmas parties hosted at Jacquie's house. Often they had 20 club members and their husbands, sit down to dinner.

Alice has had a very interesting life. She moved from New York to Ohio and then to Hawaii. She and her husband Bruce, wanted a change of climate so they boarded the Lurline and sailed to Hawaii. Bruce was an attorney in Ohio. They came to Hawaii with no plans for jobs or housing. Through a friend, they found a place in Aikahi, Kailua, and Bruce had to take the Hawaii bar exam. Alice has three children Carol, Lisa and Randy. She is now 93 years old and still keeps active with her bridge games.



FCE TRIMBLE FOUNDATION DONORS IN 2014

FCE members are generous to the Trimble Foundation

The following FCE members have made generous donations to the Trimble Foundation. This foundation gives scholarships and grants to those that apply in a timely fashion. The income from the Foundation's investments supplies enough money to give up to \$3,000. to two or three worthy applicants each year.

If you know of an organization or person who might be interested in furthering their education, please contact Martha Yamada, 2015's new FCE Trimble Distribution Committee chairman.

Thank you, Lenore Klass 2014 Trimble Distribution Committee Chair

Individuals and Associations

G. Brown	K. Blair
J. Chong	K. Enoki
P. Hodgins	C. Mulford
M. Sasaki	D. Smith
D. Hultman	P. Kubo
E. Masumura-Sakata	O. Wingate
Dr. J. Maly	R. Yoshino
C. Leider	M. Ishii
E. Lum	R. Nakasone
J. Fujii	M. Ota
S. Yee	
Kong Adda sighting CCC	
Kona Association FCE	Hui O Makani
Molokai FCE	KAFCE Council
Pukalani Club FCE	HAFCE
Haiku Club- Maui	Maile FCE
Palisades UE/FCE	Hui O Wahine
Hui Holomua FCE	Pukalani FCE
Molokai Council	Hoaloha FCE
Hamakua Association FCE	
Hilo Association FCE	
Windward Oahu FCE	
Ho'ike HAFCE Club	

Maui Association, Okuda & Torres

International Education Chair - Denise Smith

I hope that all of you have read NAFCE President Bonnie Teeples' article in the Spring 2015 "FCE Today" - the NAFCE newsletter. Bonnie announced that NAFCE will soon become involved with a project to bring attention to Human Trafficking - an international and national issue that has deep effects on our communities and societies. At NAFCE conference on July 23 - 26, there will be information shared on ideas for projects and educational items that all FCE members, councils, and clubs can become involved in. The issue of Human Trafficking has been presented in resolutions at the ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World) conferences and our FCE projects will fall in line with supporting ACWW. Let's watch and wait for information on this subject that President Sally Bowman will bring home from NAFCE conference on this worthwhile International issue!

2015 has been declared the International *Year of Soil* by the United Nations General Assembly. IYS aims to be a platform for raising awareness of the importance of soils for food security and essential ecosystem functions. The specific objectives of the IYS 2015 are to help raise awareness among communities and decision makers about the profound importance of soil for human life. Here's a simple experiment you and your club can do to find out how much organic matter is in your soil.

- > Half fill a glass jar with dry soil from your garden.
- Cover the soil with water.
- Allow the soil to stand for about 15 minutes, while it becomes saturated with the water.
- Screw the lid onto the jar.
- Shake the contents vigorously.
- Allow the soil to slowly settle in the jar.
- Measure the amount of organic matter that is suspended or floating in the water, compared with the total amount of soil in the jar.

If your club conducts this experiment, be sure to include it in your report under International Issues. Read more about IYS 2015 on the ACWW website, www.acww.org.

Congrats to Kauai FCE for participating in a great project on Okinawa with Special Olympics athletes! Be sure to read all about the "1,000 Leis of Aloha" under the Kauai FCE Council article in this newsletter. There are so many ways to become involved with International issues!

Hugs, Denise Smith cdsmith2139@gmail.com 650 969-3422

Welcome New Members!

By Patricia Kubo, Membership Chair

This year, Hawaii Association for Family and Community Education has grown by adding 16 new members to our roll. We would like to welcome these wonderful additions to our organization –

Hamakua – Joan Gour, Corinne Kealoha, Naomi Campbell, Iris Yamaguchi, Terry Mortenson, Bernie Ruis

Hilo – Ronelle Calma, Zoe Edison, Barbara Hon, Arlene Simmons, JoAnn Aguirre, Debbie Shigehara

Kauai – Annie Rellin

Kona – Sharlaine Gampen

Windward Oahu – Iris Fukunaga, LorMona Meredith

I would like to encourage all the councils to do as well as Hamakua and Hilo and invite your family and friends to join us. We will hold a drawing for the Membership Contest at the Hilo Convention.

Aloha from Oarlene

Most of you know by now that I will be moving to Coos Bay, Oregon in June.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your friendship, your encouragement and support, and all the love you have blessed me with over the last 40 years ...My Hawaii FCE family!

My email is <u>oarlenew@gmail.com</u>

My address is: 2180 Meade Ave. North Bend, OR 97459

My cell will remain the same: 808-937-6549

I hope you will keep in touch and remember that my home is always open to you. *Hugs and Kisses - Oarlene, Tim, and Shelly too*



Youth Education Chair – Lynn Nagata

Aloha from Pele's Hawaii Island. Mahalo nui loa to Windward Oahu, Maui, Kauai, and Hilo councils for submitting student entries to FCE's 2015 CHARACTER COUNTS! essay and artwork contest. This year's character trait targeted "Responsibility". There were four judges either current or past fourth grade teachers. All were impressed with the quality of the students' writing.

First Place (representing Hawaii State on the National level)

Marissa Tasaki, Emmanuel Lutheran School, Maui Council \$100 cash prize

She wrote about an experience with her friend, Taylor, and how Taylor helped her to be more responsible.

Second Place

Joshua Tsugawa, Kapunahala Elementary, Windward Oahu Council \$75 cash prize

His essay explained how Damien, with his friend's encouragement, turned his grades around by being more responsible.

Third Place

Nicolle Claire Patengga, Ele'ele School, Maui Council \$50 cash prize

"These are the many ways I can be responsible" was how Nicolle shared her thoughts on responsibility.

Congratulations to all HAFCE student winners and participants!

I hope we have a participant from every Council during 2016's Character Counts! essay and artwork contest. Information will be sent to all Council Presidents in September, 2015. We can all encourage students, of all ages, to keep writing and drawing with pencils, pens, ipads, and laptops!

Oarlene Wingate Hilo FCE Council – Hoaloha Club

Trimble Foundation Distribution Committee Report

By Lenore Klass – 2014 Chair

The committee met in the fall of 2014 and awarded \$1,250.00 to LorMona Meredith and \$1,250.00 to Natsumie Yamasato. Letters of congratulations were sent out to the awardees and letters of encouragement were sent to ineligible applicants. The Trimble Foundation application forms for individuals and non-profit organizations are available from every FCE council. These forms can be accessed from the www.hafec.org web site.

The Trimble Foundation Distribution Committee members serve a 2 year term and can be reappointed for one additional term. The 2015 members are: Hawaii – Martha Yamada (chair), Kauai – Bernie Tangalin, Oahu- Dr. Delfa (Dixie) Dumaran, Maui/Molokai – Gladys (Cookie) Brown, HAFCE Past President – Milo Ferreira, Extension Educator – Joan Chong, and Bank of Hawaii representative – Meleen Corenevsky.

Dress a Girl around the World

Submitted by Jen Laris

So far this has been an awesome year for DAG. Thanks to the volunteer work of our State, many girls in the Philippines received their very first home made dress in May. The final numbers given to New Hope Hilo for their Mission Trip this year was 600 dresses and 57 pairs of boy's shorts. Providing these items can change a child's destiny. We are waiting for the Pastors of each area to send us the pictures of their distribution. Many people who don't sew dresses or shorts donate fabric, and other supplies necessary for us to continue this Mission. We also appreciate all the help of Kamana sewing classes, Kilauea Kreations II, and Discount Fabrics for helping us spread the word about dressing girls and boys around the world.

For more information on Dress a Girl, as well as dress patterns and updated news on the program visit <u>www.dressagirlaroundtheworld.com</u>. Hawaii State Ambassadors are listed there also. Or Contact Jen Laris: East Hawaii Ambassador at 895-7795 or <u>dressagirlaroundtheworldinhi@gmail.com</u>

Hilo FCE Council – President Elizabeth Salfen

The Hilo Council would like to send our warmest Aloha and extend an invitation to our FCE Annual Convention --E Ho'ola Me Ke Aloha - Living Life with Love -. The convention will be held at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel from October 16-18, 2015. We are planning a full-filled as cond in your projection and join up for the 65th Annual ECE State Convention

weekend. Please send in your registration and join us for the 65th Annual FCE State Convention.

The Hilo Council hosted its Annual FCE Homemakers Fair. We had great entertainment, learned how to garden in containers and had lots of fun selling items to the public and to fellow council members. We will be de-cluttering our homes in preparation of our Annual Rummage Sale which will be June 27. Then we will relax at our Annual R & R weekend at the Kilauea Military Camp the weekend of July 25.

The Hilo Council participated in the Annual Art and Essay Contest and gave monetary gifts to our First, Second and Third Place winners. We had almost 80 students participate this year.

Hilo Continued

We also said farewell to Oarlene Wingate and her family who are starting a new chapter of their lives in Oregon. We will certainly miss them and we had a great time celebrating all that they have done for FCE. Oarlene will be attending our State Convention in Hilo this year.

Hilo Council FCE is looking forward to having an eventful 2015 and we are looking forward to seeing everyone in Hilo for the 65th Annual State Convention.

Kauai FCE Council – President Margo Hashimoto and Gladys Fujiuchi



The Kauai Association of Family and Community Education kicked off 2015 with an Achievement Day Luncheon and Installation of officers at the Kauai Beach Resort on January 18. Installed new officers are Margaret Hashimoto of Hui Holomua FCE, Vice-President Janice Plumer of Club Musubi, Treasurer Marina Pascua of Hui Holomua,

Historian Gladys Fujiuchi and past president, Bernie Tangalin, both of Hui Holomua.

A major project is the financial support that is given to Project Grad. Receiving the donations were Dayle Rabago Takakusagi of Waimea High School, Anita Applegate, Kauai High School, and Cassie Camara, Kapaa High School. Other projects that KAFCE supports are Character Counts! essay and drawing contest for fourth graders, Books for Newborns, Dress a Girl project and providing scholarships via the Trimble Foundation. The latest recipient of a Trimble Scholarship is Natsumi Yamasato, who is working towards a degree in education. Recognized for 5 years of service was Sharon Espina; 10 years - Suzie Yokoyama; 15 years -Bernie Tangalin; 30 years - Dorothy Higuchi; 35 years- Lucinda Tasaka and 50 years - Janet Fujii and Gladys Fujiuchi.





Left: New officers - Marina Pascua, Janice Plumer, Margaret Hashimoto and Bernie Tangalin.

Center: Project grad recipients - Dayle Rabago Takakusagi, Anita Applegate, Kauai High School, Cassie Camara and Jo Shimamoto, FCE coordinator.

Right: 1,000 Leis of Aloha

1,000 LEIS OF ALOHA

Kauai Association for Family and Community Education has undertaken a project to share Hawaii's ALOHA to children and adults in Okinawa. The members and friends will be sewing 1,000 yarn leis to be given to Special Olympic athletes in Okinawa. KAFCE president Margo Hashimoto's son, Capt. Stan Hashimoto, is the chairman of the Kadena Special Olympics to be held in October. When asked, "How can we help you?" he quickly responded that having a lei for each participant would be nice. As a gifted crafter, Margo quickly answered "Yes" and when informed that there were close to a thousand

Kauai Continued

participants last year, she turned to KAFCE for help. Members are busily making finger leis with a tag on each to show that Aloha is sent from Kauai. Even non-crafters are learning how to weave the leis around their fingers and taking pleasure knowing that they will be worn by Special Olympians in another country. We look forward to receiving pictures and stories from Stan when the leis are received by the athletes in Okinawa.



Molokai FCE Council – President Gladys (Cookie) Brown

Bringing you the latest information from our council. We are waiting for convention; will be in HILO to see all of you. Our small group is still doing individual activities in our community. We are together as individuals helping others wherever possible. KEEP ME IN TOUCH WITH YOU!

Cookie Brown from the FRIENDLY ISLE FCE

South Oahu FCE - President Susan Yee



- South Oahu chaired Oahu's Fun Day at Ho`omaluhia on April 25. Deanne from Palisades chaired the event with Palisades, Kaimuki, Happy Hens, and Windward Oahu Clubs helping. Good job -Deanne!
- South and Windward Oahu members celebrated Eunice Masumura's 100th birthday at South's April's council meeting. A Hawaiian plate lunch was enjoyed by all. It was a fun time with Ernelle Lum, Ruth Nakasone, and Susan Yee donating goodies for everyone.
- March Workshop was "Spring Fling" chaired by Kathy Uehana and Wanda Lew. Thanks to Kathy and Wanda, everyone had a good time!
- May's workshop was chaired by Wanda Lew who arranged a tour of a Bonsai farm in Waimanalo with a lunch at a Chinese restaurant in Kailua.
- Future workshop includes "How to spot a Con-artist and SCAMS" and "Furoshiki".

Palisades Club President Deanne Kaopua reported their share and learn included learning about the healing and therapeutic qualities of essential oils and made Epsom salts and air fresheners using essential oils and herbs.

- March was hosted by Ernelle Lum who shared her creative ideas for Easter crafts by making bunny gift basket filled with candies and a gift tag shaped like a cute little chick.
- April was hosted by D-Anne Uyeda. We learned more about essential oils and how to diffuse them into the air along with other beneficial uses. We made our own neck heating pads using socks filled with rice and essential oils.
- May hostess was Elaine Yamanoha who shared how to make a bookmarker out of material and ribbon by ironing them all together with a heat-activated adhesive.
- May 24th we held our Mother's Day brunch at Kahala Hotel Plumeria Café.

Wishing you all a safe summer vacation!

WINDWARD OAHU FCE – President Ruth Haitsuka

PLT's for March, April & May

MARCH: LEAF PRINTING MAKING CARDS AND/OR BOOKMARKS







On March 24, 2015, the members of Windward Oahu Council met to leaf print led by Pat Kubo. Pat asked that members bring leaves from around their yard and a hammer. The vibrant colors of leaves and flowers are easy to preserve by pounding them to release their natural dyes onto paper. Members arranged their leaves and flowers on watercolor paper and 2 layers of paper towels. Carefully pounding with hammer and then removing paper towels and floral materials, then spraying watercolor print with an acrylic spray. Using rubber cement or double sided tape, attach to card stock card. Shown in the photos are their creations.

APRIL: FOOD DEMO



Each club was asked to demonstrate a food dish. Demonstrating the recipe also allowed members to develop their leadership skills with an eager audience to learn how to make their delicious creations. Food demonstrated: Hui O'Makani: Joan Yoshino, Aburage Kim Chee; Hui O'Koolau: Eleanora Cadinha, Pickled Pork; Imiola: David Haitsuka, Nishime and Carole Mulford, Brown Rice (Jasmine & Basmati) and Onions & Chicken. All demonstrators did an excellent job with their presentation. Of course, the food dishes were delicious.

MAY: FUROSHIKI BAG/T-SHIRTS











Windward Oahu continued:

Members made furoshiki bags and a t-shirt using a kit for tie dying. Members twisted, rolled, fanned and created their own techniques in preparation for the dye. Pictured above, Pat, Iris and Evelyn are hard at work creating their masterpiece. Also pictured above, Norma worked with one hand working on shirts and furoshiki cloths. Ketzen decided to make a shirt for her father for Father's Day. All dyed items were taken home to let the dye set for eight hours or more. At our next PLT, members will bring their creations to share. T-Shirts will be worn at our State Convention in Hilo.

CHARACTER COUNTS!sm CONTEST WINNER



Kapunahala Elementary School winner, Joshua Tsugawa, won the annual CHARACTER COUNTS!sm Contest from Mrs. Diane Hirata's class. His entry was sent to the State level and placed second. Joshua is pictured holding his award.

Imiola member, Lucy Campos, made 100 pencil/pen holders for all participants in the contest. Pictured is Mrs. Hirata with Pat Kubo and winner, Joshua



CLUB NEWS

Hui O'Makani Projects:



March Meeting – For our March meeting, Annie Sagawa shared materials and taught members how to make tiny beanies which can be used alone as ornaments or as part of a snowman's outfit. Thank you Annie! Annie also shared how to make adorable bunnies from tube biscuits.



Hui O'Makani welcomed a new member, Iris Fukunaga (Annie Sagawa's niece). Iris is program coordinator for the City and County of Honolulu Foster Gardens.

April Meeting - Pat Kubo provided a fun program on Chinese Fortune



joss sticks (Chinese Numbered Sticks), fortune telling members made fortune telling "cootie catchers" to future and answer specific questions. Members enjoyed



Telling using fish and foretell the learning from

our talented Program coordinator Natalie Oda-Lee how to make adorable bead bunnies.

May - Talented member Natalie Oda showed members how to recycle old calendars or other "waste" paper to make an orgami goodie holder. It is simple enough for little ones to make, attractive and another great way to recycle. To celebrate May Day, stories were shared about special leis worn by members. We also shared memories of long ago Hawaii May Day celebrations.

Charlotte Muraoka, who helped established Hui O' Makani in 1963 has passed away. Members will truly miss her leadership as well as her many kindnesses to each of us.

Imiola News:



Soda Can Tab Lei

Jeanette Pang led members in creating their special lei for graduation using soda can tabs and two different color ribbons. It was slow going at first making the lei but once members got started it was easy going. Pictured is the lei Ruth finished in 20 minutes.

Lesson on Online Genealogy

Our newest member, Lormona, led members on how to set up an online search for ancestors. Members brought their iPads or laptop computers to connect to the site. In addition, Lormona showed us her book which her mom put together of her family. She indicated that it is very important to pass on stories to our next generation and to record these stories so that it may be passed down to them. Each member was asked to recall a time in which they were extremely happy. Very informative workshop!



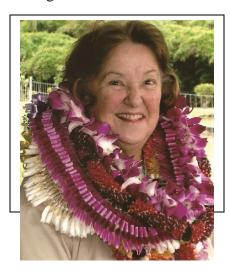


2015 HAFCE Heart of FCE Florence "Flossie" Fergerstrom

A woman of many talents and a heart of gold, Florence "Flossie" Fergerstrom has for 67 years been an exemplary FCE member. She has shared her learned skills with her family, her community, and with her East Hawaii FCE family. She joined FCE in 1948 as a young mother and used the skills taught by the

extension agents to help stretch the family dollar and make a great life for her 3 children. She later went back to school and obtained an RN degree. She worked until retiring, all the while still attending her FCE club meetings and events. Her nursing skills came in handy when her husband suffered a stroke and became disabled. Flossie cared for him at home for 6 years until his passing. During that time it was difficult for her to

attend all the FCE functions but she would host at least one club meeting a year at her home so that she could still participate. Her contributions to the local FCE craft fairs came in the form of wood work items which she made in her home workshop. She shared these skills with her club members also – teaching them how to saw, sand, and varnish little wooden angels and other craft items. Flossie shines as an FCE angel! She will be recognized at the upcoming NAFCE conference in July.



E Ho'ola Me Ke Aloha

Giving Life with Love

Hawaii Association for Family and Community Education October 16-18, 2015 Hilo Hawaiian Hotel

The 2015 State Convention in Hilo, Hawaii is fast approaching. The deadline for registration is July 15th and we are looking forward to sharing our beautiful Hilo town with all of you. The Hilo Hawaiian Hotel has been so accommodating that we were able to decrease the surcharge for those not staying at the hotel at least one night to \$25. However, we encourage everyone to stay at the hotel to support our local businesses. You'll be able to network and get to know each other better. Just think of all of the fun and fellowship that will take place! Just a remind<u>er</u> to consider travel friendly quality gifts such as gift cards from Longs or Walmart which are located on most neighbor islands. We will also be collecting gently used jewelry for sales as a fundraiser for the state.

We are so excited to have Sandi Claveria, Assistant Professor at Hawaii Community College to start off the convention by sharing her knowledge of Hermeneutics. She states, "Where we come from, our past, our life experiences, our education, our culture, and our partners all help to determine how we perceive things to be. So in local terms: It is how you see things! Simple as that! When we take the time to hear other people's stories or interpretations then we can see the BIGGER picture which allows us to make wiser interpretations, we can make better choices." It's learning the art of understanding. Please think about attending and bring a friend!