



hawaii pacific gerontological society

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HPGS 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HPGS has open enrollment for new members throughout the year. Current HPGS members may renew for 2022 any time online at www.hpgs.org or print the form and pay with a check.

The Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society distributes monthly newsletters and hosts three general membership meetings.

HPGS encourages all members to submit articles, email the board with suggestions for speakers, and/or volunteer on a committee.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



RICK TABOR
PRESIDENT

And just like that, it's December. Another year almost over, and a new one about to begin. What has HPGS done? Let's see, HPGS added some new board members, received generous donations for gerontological scholarships, updated our website, and enjoyed three General Membership Meetings, thanks to all who participated, with a special Mahalo to Governor Ige, in September. The first HPGS General Membership Meeting for 2023 will be Thursday, January 19th. What topic and speaker would you like to hear? Email me at rtabor12@twc.com.

The 6th Annual HPGS Fundraiser was aired live on Olelo November 3rd, honoring Hawaii's Long-Term Care Ombudsman, John McDermott and his team of Ombudsmen. If you saw the 'Olelo rebroadcasts, we hope you enjoyed the production. If you missed the show, here's the link for anywhere anytime viewing and sharing. Please enjoy: <https://youtu.be/KMJ5mlQseHc>

The next big HPGS event will be the HPGS biennial conference "Sustainable Transitions in Gerontology," set for September 7-8, 2023 at the Ala Moana Hotel. Look for more information through our monthly newsletter, with special emails to all HPGS members. And a friendly reminder that if you have job and volunteer openings, please let us know by completing the form on our website, www.hpgs.org.

It's been a pleasure serving as your 2022 President. Thank you HPGS, officers, committee chairs, and board of directors for your incredible support. You're a team anyone would love to join. Matter of fact, we'd love to expand, and welcome more of our members to the board.

There was much more I hoped to accomplish, but will return to being a humble board member. The 2023 HPGS President will be Kathy Wyatt, and we would like to share the link of the Kokua Council's Legislative Priorities Meeting: <https://youtu.be/HOX2Ymx0Dm4>

Hau'oli Lanui! (Happy Holidays),
Rick Tabor

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of HPGS is to increase awareness of and interest in the field of gerontology by providing networking and educational opportunities, as well as scholarships, to Hawaii's workforce or other interested parties, in which to support the creation of needed policies and programs that will enhance the quality and age-friendly services to our Kūpuna in Hawaii.

HPGS MEMBER NEWS

AARP Hawaii was in the AARP Bulletin for November 2022, stating that "Roughly 173,000 workers in Hawaii will be eligible for a retirement savings program pushed by AARP and signed by Governor David Ige." The Hawaii Retirement Savings Act passed the state Legislature in May and was signed by Governor Ige in July, giving workers who don't have access to a work-place retirement plan an easy way to save for retirement using payroll deduction. The new law will also support small businesses that want to help their workers save. Learn more at action.aarp.org/hisaves.

Mahalo goes out to HPGS member, **Ohana Care Maui**, for sharing an email on four key areas to consider for a positive caregiver-client relationship, as higher quality agencies actively factor the "foundations of quality care" not the culture of the agency and its team. Here are a couple of them: (1) Compassionate Care: Compassion and empathy are a cornerstone of a successful caregiver/client relationship. Caregivers are responsible for a person's care at some of the most difficult times of their lives. (2) Respect: Clients can sense when they are treated with respect regarding their home, their belongings, their situation, and their personal preferences.

2023 HPGS EVENTS

General Membership Meetings

Thursdays at 11:30am

January 19th

May 18th

September 21st

Biennial Conference

September 7th & 8th

Ala Moana Hotel

Scholarship Fundraiser

November 3rd

HPGS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The first HPGS General Membership Meeting for 2023 will be held on Thursday, January 19th from 11:30am via Zoom. Guest speakers will be Jane Burgisay of the Hawaii Social Security Administration and Wanda Anae-Onishi from Hawaii SHIP.



Jane will let you know when you should file for Medicare, when you are eligible to receive social security retirement benefits and how you can get the most from your benefit. Wanda will cover the free services SHIP provides to Medicare beneficiaries, their families, caregivers, and soon-to-be retirees.

ELDERCARE WORKER TRAINING AWARDEES

The HPGS Workforce Development Committee awarded four Eldercare Worker Training students a \$750 check each to support their education in nursing and social work. We are proud to congratulate the following: Catalina Freitas-Estores, Arlene Helgeson, Shaun Santos, Justin Shishido and Yolanda Spragling.



As of the writing of this newsletter, HPGS heard from Lordina, who wrote: "Thank you so much, for giving me the opportunity in fulfilling my dreams. I didn't have high hopes that I would be chosen and for that I am very grateful."



Arlene Helgeson wrote: "I was born and raised in the Philippines. We came to Hawaii when I was 17 years old, back in 1984. I've decided to take classes to be a CNA so I can gain some experience and knowledge on how to properly care for my elderly parents. Thanks to HPGS for making it all possible for me!"



Catalina Freitas-Estores wrote: "Coming from being a single young mother and a victim of domestic violence abuse, it has been a struggle trying to get myself back on my feet, and more importantly, attempting to recreate my future dreams/career paths. I just want to take this moment to public give a HUGE THANK YOU to HPGS for blessing me with my scholarship."

RECONNECTING WITH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES



As a recipient of an HPGS scholarship in 2019, **Whitney Katsutani** recently said "it was such a blessing to not only receive financial support from HPGS but membership in an organization that allowed me to connect with other members of the gerontology community and receive mentorship in my specific areas of interest. Much of this contributed to my decision to apply for the PhD in Social Welfare program at the University of Hawaii to continue my academic journey and research into how to foster intergenerational connections between our keiki and kupuna along with supporting development of our local geriatric/gerontological workforce. I hope to support the perpetuation of this wonderful scholarship program by volunteering my services to the HPGS workforce development committee. Mahalo members of HPGS for everything you do!"