



hawaii pacific gerontological society

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November 2025

HPGS 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HPGS has open enrollment for new members throughout the year. HPGS members may renew for 2025 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



LAURIE ADAMSHICK
PRESIDENT

November greetings,

This is the month for togetherness and gratitude. At HPGS we are looking forward to gathering with many of you on November 14th at 5:30 to celebrate and demonstrate our gratitude for the meaningful work of Jeannette Koijane. Our 2025 Fundraiser Event will be held at Arcadia and include great food and drink shared with our colleagues and friends, all in support of our Scholarship Program for aspiring nurses and nurse aides. As we all age, it is the current and coming generations of these compassionate workers who will be there for us all. It is an important part of the mission of HPGS to support the workforce that supports our kupuna. It is not too late to register for what will surely be a fun and delicious evening. Go to <https://pci.jotform.com/form/202307717124043> to register online.

There is an excellent article on the Kupuna Caucus at our Legislature in the November-December 2025 issue of Generations Magazine. You can read it here: <https://generations808.com/kupuna-caucus-promotes-aging-support/>. If you are interested in issues affecting kupuna and the legislation being considered by this focused group of legislators, you can attend Caucus meetings virtually on Zoom or YouTube, or listen in by phone. They will soon be voting on the items to be included in their Kupuna Caucus Legislative Package for 2026.

Once the bills have been selected for inclusion, you will have the opportunity to weigh in by providing written or oral testimony in favor or against the proposed bills. Last year two of the five Kupuna Caucus bills were signed into law. On average only one in ten are signed into law. Our opinions have a strong impact on the future of kupuna in Hawaii so don't wait to get involved. Start now as preparations are being made for the next legislative session.

On behalf of all of us at HPGS, we are grateful for your support and wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving, full of togetherness and your own gratitude --

With aloha,

Laurie

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, and otherwise to support the creation of needed policies and programs that will enhance the quality and number of age-friendly services to our Kūpuna in Hawaii.

HPGS 2026 RENEWAL

2025 has flown by so fast but HPGS hopes that the monthly newsletter, two general memberships meetings, biennial conference and annual Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fundraiser were a part of your year.

The HPGS membership fees have not increased and is very affordable for all. The **2026 HPGS Renewal Form** is attached for those who wish to mail a check. If you wish to charge, go to hpgs.org and renew through PayPal, however, starting January 2026, a 3% fee will be added to all charges made online so HPGS can receive 100% of membership or donations.

Note: For any NEW members joining from now through December, their membership fee will be waived and include the 2026 dues.

HPGS TONY LENZER SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER PHOTOS



Hope Young & Jeannette Kojane



Jeannette & husband Markus

HPGS TONY LENZER SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

There were forty attendees at last Friday's "Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fundraiser," honoring Jeannette Kojane of Kokua Mau. There were in-person and video-taped speakers who talked about Jeannette's contribution throughout Hawaii, two saying: "If you have a POLST form on your refrigerator or door, Jeannette should be thanked." The HPGS board wanted to thank the Arcadia Family of Companies who hosted this event. A delicious spread that looked like a five-star restaurant's buffet was enjoyed by all, along with a beautiful table centerpiece. Mahalo to Kristina Wong for providing the red and white wines.



Certificates were awarded Jeannette from Governor Josh Green, Mayor Rick Blangiardi, the Senate and City Council. She also received an engraved koa clock from HPGS to recognize her contribution to Hawaii.

Jeannette emailed this message: "Aloha HPGS and Mahalo nui loa for naming me as your awardee this year at the Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fund fundraiser. It is an honor to be recognized by my peers and I am truly moved to have been given this award. Thank you for the wonderful, well organized party where we could get together (finally in person again!) Great food, wonderful people, important work! What could be better? I look forward to working with you all in the months and years to come as we strive to provide the best care possible to our kūpuna, their loved ones and those who care for them."

HPGS ELDERCARE WORKER AWARD

The **Eldercare Worker Training Award** was designed specifically for persons currently working with, or planning to work with, older adults. This award provides tuition assistance for workers who enroll in credit or noncredit courses and certificate programs which enhances their knowledge and skills in areas relating to aging. Selected classes can be in-person or online, with HPGS awarding \$750. The application for this award can be found on the HPGS website.



Here are two students were recently awarded. One was **Shirley Romualdo**, who will be taking a CNA class. She emailed this to Sherry Goya, HPGS Executive Director: "I'm so happy to share that I've officially graduated — your support truly made this dream a reality and wanted to send my heartfelt thanks for selecting me as one of the scholarship recipients for my CNA online class. Your generosity truly means a lot and will help me continue my journey in caring for our Kupuna with compassion and dignity. This scholarship lifted such a big weight off of my shoulders and gave me the extra push of encouragement to keep going. Please know that your kindness is making a real difference — not just in my life, but for those I hope to care for in the future. Mahalo nui loa for believing in me and for all the wonderful work your organization does for Hawaii's community."



Kenneth Chee wrote: "I am sincerely grateful to the Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society for awarding me this scholarship and supporting my passion for serving Hawai'i's kūpuna. I will be attending Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) school to gain hands-on experience in caregiving and make a meaningful impact on the lives of our elderly community members. In addition to my training, I hope to conduct research on Hawai'i's aging demographics to better understand how we can best prepare for the state's rapidly growing elderly population. My goal is to contribute to creating sustainable systems of care that take care of our kūpuna, and your support brings me closer to making that vision a reality."



hawaii pacific gerontological society

Founded in 1979, the **Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society** is the largest nonprofit multidisciplinary group of professionals, individuals, companies and organizations in the field of aging in Hawaii. Membership opportunities available to all islands consists of gerontology educators, students, medical and social service personnel, older adults (kupuna), caregivers, companies and organizations from every sector of the community. Federal I.D. #99-0211232

HPGS discusses, networks, and shares information about issues and policies affecting Hawaii kupuna, to include career and job fairs, expos, webinars, etc. They also provide scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students interested in careers in aging, as well as tuition assistance for workers seeking to upgrade their knowledge in this field.

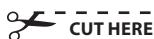
Benefits of an HPGS member includes:

- The HPGS monthly **newsletter** is distributed electronically and filled with age-related news, events, activities, job openings, announcements, and more.
- Throughout the year, there are **events** to bring HPGS members together for timely and relevant issues, discussions, and educational opportunities, as well as networking events and quarterly General Membership Meetings.
- HPGS prides itself in offering **scholarships** for those pursuing education in the field of aging, thus creating fundraising options.
- A two-day biennial **conference** is held in odd-numbered years and offers professional and educational venues on aging research, practice and policy for Hawaii, while also attracting national and international participants.
- HPGS members receive electronic **notices** on significant events, opportunities available, and other announcements.
- The HPGS **website** provides a resource of news, events, membership, etc. Company member's information and individual member's names will be placed on the HPGS website.
- There are a number of **committees** where membership involvement is welcomed.

For further information, please contact

Sherry Goya, HPGS Executive Director at sgoyallc@aol.com or 808-722-8487

Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society • P. O. Box 3714 • Honolulu, HI 96812 • www.hpgs.org



CUT HERE

2026 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Contact Name: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Facsimile: _____

E-Mail: _____

Website: _____

Annual dues (check one):

- ☐ \$10 for individual 65 and over
- ☐ \$20 for individual under 25 years
- ☐ \$80 for individual 26 to 64 years
- ☐ \$100 for company/organization
(includes the contact person listed)
- ☐ \$50 for Associate Member
(individual of company member)

Date Paid: _____

Payment Amount: _____

Check Enclosed: # _____

Mail this form and check payable to HPGS to P. O. Box 3714 • Honolulu, HI 96812

To pay by charge card, go to www.hpgs.org and use fillable form.