This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Military Affairs Council (MAC) of the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii. Since 1983, the MAC has served as a liaison between the United States Military and Hawaii’s business community and has been the state’s leading advocate for our men and women in uniform. In 2013, the MAC was reconstituted to take an even stronger advocacy role to achieve its mission, which is to “Promote, Preserve and Protect” the military in Hawaii. For the last two years the MAC has focused its efforts to better inform the public, as well as federal, state and county government officials about the importance of the military to the state’s economy. Over the course of the last five years, military spending has contributed $10 billion to the economy. Over the course of the last five years, military spending has contributed $10 billion to the economy. Over the course of the last five years, military spending has contributed $10 billion to the economy. Over the course of the last five years, military spending has contributed $10 billion to the economy.

Through facilitating these engagements with the military, the MAC has been successful in gaining support for its various initiatives. As a result of the Keep Hawaii’s Heroes campaign that concluded earlier this year, Hawaii was able to avoid a proposed loss of approximately 20,000 soldiers at Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks. Additionally, during the 2015 Legislative Session, the MAC was successful in getting the State Legislature to authorize a senior military advisor in the Office of the Governor.

In the face of an ever-shrinking pool of federal funds, Hawaii needs to continue finding ways, whether through partnership or policy, to support its military. While there are certainly challenges ahead, the MAC will continue to be at the forefront in seeking ways to address such issues.

Welcome New Members
- Altra Client Services
- Beecher Carlson Insurance Services
- Blake Entertainment LLC
- Capitol Consultants of Hawaii, LLP
- Central Payment Corporation
- Coldwell Banker Pacific Properties
- CommunicationsPacific
- DSI Renex
- Dennis V. McCrea
- E&EA, Inc: A Law Corporation
- Hastings & Headwell: A Communication Company
- HI Insurance & Financial Services
- Kauai Sound & Cinema
- Ke Ohia Resort Operators Association
- Koppel Pipeline Services
- Makalu Productions
- Pan-Area Communications
- Paper Fancies
- Sae Design Inc.
- The Hawaii Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation
- Verizon Wireless
- Vivant Solar

Large White Reception and Social
Schewe Travel
September 14 »
2015 Hawaii Tourism Conference
August 27-28 »
The Asia Pacific Resilience Innovation Summit and Expo 2015
August 27-28 »
2015 Hawaii Tourism Conference
September 14 »
Schewe Travel
Big White Reception and Social

On July 16, nearly 800 members attended the Chamber’s 156th annual membership luncheon featuring former UH coach June Jones, sports agent Leigh Steinberg, and keynote speaker Bob Bradlee, who all provided electrifying and engaging presentations. The theme was “X’s and O’s in Business and Sports.” Our emcee and facilitator was the dynamic Rick Blangiardi, General Manager of Hawaii News Now and former Chair of the Chamber’s Board of Directors. The Chamber paid tribute to outgoing board members who made significant contributions and certainly made a difference during their terms as directors. They include: Vic Angoco, Matson; Randy Francisco, Kaiser Chamber of Commerce; Ben Goeckel, ProService Hawaii; Pete Schiller, Honolulu Holdings; Barry Taniguchi, KTA Superstore; and Mike Wright, Lokes Kai Partners.

We also recognized Dennis Francis, President and Publisher of the Honolulu Star-Advertiser, after serving a two-year term as Chair. Under his leadership, we accomplished many of our goals and initiatives. Our team is truly grateful for his dedication, commitment and the wonderful support he provided to ensure that we had the resources needed to move forward. A brief membership meeting was also held to vote on new directors, who include: Bryan Andaya, L&L Drive Inn (Chair’s appointee); Scott Budin, Hawaiian Telcom; Stafford Kiguchi, Bank of Hawaii; Saedme Ota, Sue Designs; David Okabe, Hawaii Pacific Health; and Kukuihulu Park, Matson.

The annual luncheon could not be possible without the wonderful support of our sponsors and attendees. As we begin this new fiscal year, the Chamber team is pleased to welcome and work with Gale Lee of American Savings Bank as our new Board Chair, our board of directors and members to continue making your Chamber a productive and relevant organization.

**BIGGER, BOLDER, BETTER!** This is our theme for the upcoming year.

Our team works by the adage, “refuse to settle for anything less than butterflies.” Essentially, if we’re not working outside of our comfort zone and being proactive with new and innovative ideas, then we’re not doing our jobs effectively. The Chamber is committed to exceeding our members’ expectations and ensuring that their membership is a sound investment.

In keeping in line with the sports theme of the luncheon, attendees were asked to be a member of our starting lineup, with a playbook that will include defensive and offensive plays, as well as risks and long-shots. However, as long as we are picking up the ball and moving it down the field into the end zone, we will score victories for Hawaii’s businesses. So, our members are ready to make the big plays that will allow us to record wins for Hawaii’s businesses and the people of our beautiful state.

We look forward to an outstanding year with our board and all of you to build a better business climate. That’s why we’re making this year a winning season. On a separate note, a big mahalo to our PBN sponsors: Becker Communications, Carlsmith Ball, Queen’s Health Systems, and our newest sponsor, Hawaii Gas, for the opportunity to continue bringing the Chamber Voice page to the business community over the next year.