



# HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS 67<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention

HILTON TOKYO NARITA AIRPORT HOTEL  
NARITA, JAPAN  
MAY 21 - 24, 2023





### Legend of the Seal

Shield	Ledger for modern accounting; scales for balancing the book
Quills	Symbol of writing, scholarship
Warriors	As guard ants - Symbol of the King's tax collectors
Crown	Symbol of the King
Makahiki	Symbol at top center means Lono, time of tax



## **Welcome to Japan ... HAPA Members and Guests!!!**

The Maui Chapter of the Hawaii Association of Public Accountants (HAPA) has worked very hard with other Island Chapters to put together a convention with two days of informative seminars with excellent speakers, a cocktail party, a dinner at the famous Kikuya Unagi (Eel) Restaurant in Narita City, and our convention installation banquet. At this convention, we welcome participants who reside in Japan, and we hope that they can share some of their thoughts and perspectives so we can all grow and learn from each other.

Participants will also enjoy an industry tour to Odaiba, where they will visit Miraikan – The National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation, Kawasaki Robostage, and TeamLab Planets. Following the convention, there are optional post-convention hotel and bus tour arrangements visiting Mt. Fuji/Hakone and Tokyo sights from Shinjuku. After a three-year delay due to the pandemic, we are excited to visit Japan!!! We sincerely thank Narita City for supporting our convention, the Chiba Prefecture for their gracious hospitality, and the Hilton Tokyo Narita Hotel for their patience, assistance, and excellent service in helping coordinate arrangements over three years. We hope that everyone attending HAPA's state convention has a great time!!!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this convention a success!!! .

With Warmest Aloha —

*Marifyn M. Niwao, MSPH, J.D., CPA, CGMA*

HAPA State President

**HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**  
**67<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention**  
**May 21 – 24, 2023**

**SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023**

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6:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting and Dinner - SORA meeting room

**MONDAY, MAY 22, 2023**

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7:40 a.m. Registration - Royal Hall

8:00 a.m. Opening Ceremonies; Greetings & Announcements—MC - John W. Roberts, MBA, CPA, CGMA  
Opening Message - Marilyn M. Niwao, MSPH, J.D., CPA, HAPA State President

8:10 - 9:50 a.m. Technical Sessions to include:

**“Adapting Japanese products and concepts successfully for the U.S. market”** (Speaker: Milton Fujii, President of 3 Katto LLC, dba Daiso Hawaii; Director of Import - HouseMart Ace Hardware, Ben Franklin Crafts, and Dean’s Inc., one of Hawaii’s largest family-owned chain-store operators. Directly responsible for Daiso’s arrival in Hawaii.)

10:00 - 11:40 a.m. **“Cross-border U.S. - Japan Estate Planning”**  
(Speaker: Michael H. Shikuma, Attorney (Hawaii), and Japan Licensed Foreign Law Attorney, who resides in Tokyo)

11:40 - 12:45 p.m. Lunch and General Membership Meeting, Part 1 - Crown Room

12:45 - 2:25 p.m. **“Problems in Cross-Border Implementation of Japanese Inheritance Tax Law” - from the viewpoint of a Japanese certified tax accountant and “Cross-border U.S. - Japan income tax issues”** (Speakers - Katsumi Naito, Japanese tax accountant, in Ginza, Tokyo, and Eri Shima, J.D., CPA from OCCPA LLC in Honolulu)

2:35 - 3:00 p.m. **“Japanese Business and Social Etiquette”** (Speaker - Creighton Aotani of OCCPA LLC and Pacific Bridge International LLC)

3:15 - 5:15 p.m. **Cocktail Reception and Kabuki Show - Crown Room; M.C. Brian M. Iwata**

4:15 - 8:00 p.m. Hilton and HAPA shuttle buses provide transportation from Hilton hotel to/from Narita City

6:00 p.m. (Optional) dinner at the Kikuya Restaurant in Narita



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**TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2023**

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- 7:30 a.m. Registration - Royal Hall
- 8:00 - 11:30 a.m. Technical Session  
**“2023 Federal Tax Update”**  
(Speaker: Bob Jennings CPA, EA, CFP of TaxSpeaker, Jeffersonville, Indiana. Bob is a nationally renowned author and an excellent speaker, presenting continuing education classes to over 100,000 tax professionals over the last 30 years all over the world.)
- 11:30 - 12:30 p.m. Lunch and General Membership Meeting, Part 2 - Crown Room
- 12:30 - 4:00 p.m. Technical Sessions - continuation from morning session.
- 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. **67<sup>th</sup> Annual HAPA State Convention Installation Banquet - Diamond Room**  
5:30 p.m. Greetings by the **Unari-kun mascot of Narita City**  
6:00 p.m. **Introductions by M.C. John W. Roberts; welcoming remarks by Deputy Mayor Kenji Sekine, City of Narita; dinner with Koto entertainment; remarks by State President Marilyn M. Niwao; installation ceremony**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023**

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- 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. **Industry bus tour to Odaiba to include visits to Miraikan—The National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation, Kawasaki Robostage, and TeamLab Planets.**

**THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023**

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- 11:00 a.m. Optional bus transfer from Hilton Tokyo Narita Airport hotel to Keio Plaza Hotel in Shinjuku. Post-convention bus tours to Mt. Fuji/Hakone and around Tokyo







成田市  
NARITA CITY

## A Special Message from *Mayor Kazunari Koizumi*

In recognition of Hawaii Association of Public Accountants 67<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention  
May 21 to May 24, 2023

On behalf of Narita City, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the organizers and members of Hawaii Association of Public Accountants. Aloha to all the attendees of the 67th Annual State Convention. I am truly pleased that you have chosen Narita city as venue for the convention.

Narita City is home to Japan's air gateway Narita Airport, offering convenient access to more than 100 cities in the world. Our city has many popular tourism spots where you can feel the typical Japanese elegant culture and history such as Naritasan Shinshoji and Sogoreido. The Japan's iconic Naritasan Shinshoji Temple is a nation's Designated Important Cultural Property, and visited by more than 10 million people from all over the country each year.

I have learned that the Hawaii Association of Public Accountants (HAPA) is the only statewide public accounting organization with active chapters on Oahu, Maui, Big Island, and Kauai and with over 450 members. And your organization provides opportunities for its members to network through various social, community and sporting events, and provides educational scholarships to local accounting students wishing to pursue a career in public accounting.

I firmly believe that the 67th State Convention, which will be held for the first time in Japan, will be a great opportunity for participants to broaden their knowledge and experience Japanese culture.

Once again, allow me to extend my warmest welcome to you.  
I hope you will have a wonderful and fruitful time in Chiba.

With warmest regards,

小泉一成

Kazunari Koizumi  
Mayor of Narita City





**67th ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
Monday, May 22, 2023 and Tuesday, May 23, 2023  
Hilton Tokyo Narita Airport Hotel, Japan**

**AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. CALL FOR QUORUM (20 members in good standing in attendance)
3. APOINTMENTS OF:
  - Parliamentarian
  - Sergeant-At-Arms
4. MINUTES OF 66<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.....Sharon S. Ibarra
5. REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS:
  - President..... Marilyn M. Niwao
  - Vice President, Hawaii..... Shannon Wibberley
  - Vice President, Kauai.....Ann Y. Kennedy
  - Vice President, Maui..... Colleen M. Takamura
  - Vice President, Oahu..... Eric H. Matsuda
  - Treasurer..... Shaun Thayer
6. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:
  - Membership..... Eric H. Matsuda
  - Legislative Committee..... Marilyn M. Niwao
7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
8. NEW BUSINESS:
  - Election of HAPA Officers and Directors:
    - Report of the Nominating Committee..... Marilyn M. Niwao
    - Election of Officers and Directors..... Sharon S. Ibarra
    - Installation of Officers and Directors.....Brian M. Iwata
9. SELECTION OF 2025 HAPA 69<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION SITE
10. ANNOUNCEMENTS
11. ADJOURNMENT

**HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**  
**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 2022 – 2023**

President .....	Marilyn M. Niwao
Vice President – Hawaii.....	Shannon Wibberley
Vice President – Kauai .....	Ann Y. Kennedy
Vice President – Maui.....	Colleen M. Takamura
Vice President – Oahu.....	Eric H. Matsuda
Secretary .....	Sharon S. Ibarra
Treasurer .....	Shaun Thayer
Director – Hawaii .....	Nathan Colgrove
Director – Kauai.....	Timothy Albao
Director – Maui .....	Marilyn M. Niwao
Director – Oahu .....	Terence Enriques

**2023 CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

Convention Chairperson (from 2020, postponed due to pandemic).....	Marilyn M. Niwao
Host Chapter for the HAPA State Convention .....	Maui Chapter
Site investigation, facilitated Japan contacts, assisted with planning of postponed Japan convention from 2020.....	Frederick “Rick” Gundlach
Hotel & Event Arrangements, Notices to Members, Registration Form, overall convention and post-convention planning.....	Marilyn M. Niwao
Online Website Registration .....	Eric Matsuda
Master of Ceremonies .....	John W. Roberts
Cocktail reception MC, Installation of Officers, and assist with planning for postponed convention from 2020 .....	Brian M. Iwata
On-site registration and receptions in Japan .....	Colleen Takamura, Sharon Ibarra Emily Ewing, and Ann Hayashi
Convention booklet.....	Nathan A. Colgrove
Sponsors & donations.....	Marilyn M. Niwao, and Rick Gundlach
Speakers, Speaker Materials, AV requirements .....	Marilyn M. Niwao
CPE certificates, IRS credits & name tags.....	Claudia Oshima
Convention Finances .....	Eric Matsuda, Colleen Takamura, and Laurie Choy
Maui Chapter Gift bags for convention attendees....	Colleen Takamura, Sharon Ibarra Denise Yoshida, and Colleen Iwata
Banquet—Program, Entertainment & Awards .....	Marilyn M. Niwao
Industry tour in Odaiba; post-convention hotel arrangements and JTB bus tours from Shinjuku.....	Marilyn M. Niwao



# HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

## PAST PRESIDENTS

1943 – 1944	Howard Polakow
1944 – 1945	James R. Hara
1945 – 1946	William H. Plate
1946 – 1947	Herman G.P. Lemke
1947 – 1948	Paul B. Leong
1948 – 1949	Richard B. Goeas
1949 – 1950	Allen S. Sonoda
1950 – 1951	Howard K. Yoshino
1951 – 1952	Katsuto Nagaue
1952 – 1953	Michael M. Tokunaga *
1953 – 1954	Ah Chan Jim
1954 – 1955	Harry S. Shiroma
1955 – 1957	Shigeo Matsuura
1957 – 1958	Robert S. Okuma *
1958 – 1959	George F. Ikeno
1959 – 1960	Seiji Mizukami
1960 – 1961	Shoichi Okumoto *
1961 – 1962	Tad T. Uyehara
1962 – 1963	Francis Motooka *
1963 – 1964	Harry H. Ueki
1964 – 1965	Raymond Kashiwada
1965 – 1966	Tom T. Kato *
1966 – 1967	Herbert H. Masunaga
1967 – 1968	Rudolph C. Cockett
1968 – 1969	Thomas H. Shiroma
1969 – 1970	David K.Y. Yee *
1970 – 1971	Koki Akimoto
1971 – 1972	Edmund Lau
1972 – 1973	Yoshiko T. Sato
1973 – 1974	Clifford M. Nishina *
1974 – 1975	Haruto Tanabe *
1975 – 1976	Y.F. Choy
1976 – 1977	Tad Aono
1977 – 1978	Albert H. Yuen
1978 – 1979	Mitsutada Nakayama
1979 – 1980	Edmund Yin
1980 – 1981	Jo N. Okazaki
1981 – 1982	Ernest Chang-Tung
1982 – 1983	Walter T.Y. Lau*+
1983 – 1985	Raymond A.C. Nip *
1985 – 1986	Tom T. Kato *
1986 – 1987	Gilbert J. Matsumoto *

\*Past or Present NSA Governor, District XI

+Past or Present NSA President

# HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

## PAST PRESIDENTS (Continued)

1987 – 1990.....	Robert H. Fukuhara, Jr.*+
1990 – 1992.....	Terence B. Enriques
1992 – 1993.....	Darryl T. Komo
1993 – 1995.....	A. Russell Ing
1995 – 1996.....	Lynne T. Nakama
1996 – 1998.....	June Y. Aono
1998 – 2002.....	Marilyn M. Niwao*+
2002 – 2003.....	James C. L. Moo *
2003 – 2006.....	Isaac W. Choy
2006 – 2009.....	Gregg M. Taketa
2009 – 2014.....	John W. Roberts
2014 – 2016.....	Eric H. Matsuda
2016 – 2021.....	Brian M. Iwata *
2021 – 2022.....	Eric H. Matsuda
2022 – 2023.....	Marilyn M. Niwao*+

\*Past or Present NSA Governor, District XI  
+Past or Present NSA President





**HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**  
**66<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting**  
**June 22 - 25, 2022**

On Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 12:21 p.m., President Eric Matsuda called the meeting to order at the Sheraton Kauai Coconut Beach Resort.

**ATTENDANCE**

In accordance with Article V, section 4 of the Constitution which requires 20 members in good standing to establish a quorum, Secretary Sharon Ibarra verified the existence of such a quorum.

**PARLIAMENTARIAN**

President Matsuda appointed Terence Enriques to serve as Parliamentarian.

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

President Matsuda appointed Gilbert Matsumoto to serve as the Sergeant-at-Arms.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Minutes of the 64th Annual Membership meeting as prepared by Secretary Ibarra were printed in the general membership program. It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the minutes.

**REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS**

President Matsuda and each of the four Vice Presidents submitted written reports, which were printed in the general membership program. A copy of each report is contained in the Secretary's file.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's report was printed in the general membership program. On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, the Treasurer's report was accepted, subject to audit.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

The following committee reports were included in the general membership meeting program and are contained in the Secretary's file:

1. Membership – Chairperson, Eric Matsuda
2. Legislative Committee – Chairperson, Marilyn Niwao

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**  
**66<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting**  
**June 22 - 25, 2022**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

Nominating Committee Chairperson, Marilyn Niwao, presented a recommended slate of officers and directors for the year 2022/2023:

President	Marilyn Niwao	Director-Oahu	Terence Enriques
Vice President-Oahu	Eric Matsuda	Director-Hawaii	Nathan Colgrove
Vice President-Hawaii	Shannon Wibberley	Director-Maui	Marilyn Niwao
Vice President-Maui	Colleen Takamura	Director-Kauai/West Hi	Timothy Albao
Vice President-Kauai	Ann Kennedy		
Secretary	Sharon Ibarra		
Treasurer	Shaun Thayer		

The Nominating Committee reported that the slate of officers was posted as required. President Matsuda called for any further nominations from the floor for all of the above positions. On motion duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, the nominations of all of the above positions were closed. President Matsuda then instructed Secretary Sharon Ibarra to cast a unanimous ballot for each of the nominees.

**SELECTION OF 2024 HAPA ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION HOST CHAPTER**

The Oahu Chapter graciously volunteered to host the 2024 68<sup>th</sup> annual state convention. Next year's convention will be held in May 2023 in Narita, Japan.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

There being no further business to come before the general membership meeting, on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting was recessed at 12:45 p.m. until the convention banquet.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sharon Ibarra*

Sharon Ibarra  
Secretary



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### STATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2022 – 2023

This past year was extraordinarily busy. After many businesses in Hawaii failed due to COVID-19 pandemic regulations, Hawaii finally relaxed travel and business restrictions. Hawaii was fortunate to see so many tourists visit again, to the point that tourist arrivals and expenditures are reaching and exceeding 2019 levels. Unfortunately, when Hawaii businesses failed during the pandemic, many employees left the State, and surviving businesses are left to deal with employee shortages and high inflation as the economy starts to recover. Given the recent bank failures in the U.S., the rapid interest rate hikes, and geopolitical turmoil, it will be interesting to see what happens to the economy and the tax and accounting profession in the coming years.

HAPA was able to transition from offering primarily online professional educational courses during the pandemic to once again offering live tax and accounting courses in Hawaii. HAPA members were also able to enjoy live social events such as Chapter banquets and Christmas parties. It was great to see and network with long-time HAPA friends.

On the legislative front, HAPA was active this past legislative season, and testified against two bills – one having to do with “no notice, no fees” CPA mobility, and the other having to do with elimination of the Hawaii second mortgage interest deductions. HAPA has also been discussing Hawaii Board of Public Accountancy matters having to do with handling the decline of students seeking to become CPAs and changes to the Hawaii Board rules.

HAPA remains an all-volunteer trade association built around the concept of practitioners serving practitioners. The tasks of watching our members' backs at the legislature and at the Hawaii Board of Public Accountancy as well as providing high-quality yet affordable CPE are borne by volunteers. This year's state convention in Japan is yet another example of innovative educational and industry offerings HAPA is providing to help our members learn more and grow to better themselves as professionals in serving the public. And after a three year delay of our state convention in Japan, we are finally here!!!

When you see the officers, directors, and committee members that form HAPA's leadership core, please join me in thanking them for their many hours of service to our profession of public accounting. Please also thank the Outstanding Chapter members for their contributions to HAPA.

Finally, thank you for the privilege of serving as your president.

With warmest aloha –

*Marilyn M. Niwao, MSPH, JD, CPA, CGMA*

HAPA State President



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### KAUAI CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT 2022 – 2023

Warmest Aloha...

2023 stirs much optimism with sustained recovery from the unexpected and disruptive pandemic. Also encouraging, the tourism and hospitality industry remains strong, fueling our island economy. Most of all, resuming face-to-face events is a welcome relief. In my world, Zoom was the new 'four-letter word', especially with dropped connections, compromised sound, and stuttering video. Nevertheless, we survived, but only with the support of our faithful Kauai members and officers. Each quarter's meeting throughout the past two years was attended in-person, and patronized local restaurants including Duke's Canoe Club, Puakea Grill, Liliko'i's, and Big Monster Sushi and Thai.

I send deepest, sincerest MAHALOS to two chapter officers who willingly served for an astounding combined 50 years: Tim Albao and Lon Shimanuki. Much gratitude to you both for the many years of generous commitment and support!

As this fiscal year comes to an end, we bid a fond aloha to Tim Albao (Chapter Vice President, Kauai State Director) and Ann Kennedy (Chapter President, State Vice President), who will vacate their positions. Keeping with our chapter goal, we anticipate recruiting more recent generational leaders to keep the Kauai momentum moving forward.

It has been an extreme honor and pleasure to serve this accounting professional group. Here's to a fantastic and successful upcoming convention in Japan!

Live with intention,  
Walk to the edge.  
Listen hard.  
Practice wellness.  
Play with abandon.  
Laugh.  
Choose with no regret.  
Appreciate your friends.  
Continue to learn.  
Do what you love.  
Live as if this is all there is.  
- Mary Anne Radmacher

Respectfully submitted,

*Ann Y. Kennedy*

Ann Y. Kennedy, CPA, MBA  
Kauai Chapter President





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### OAHU CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT 2022 – 2023

We had our three annual seminars this past year. The Walter Haig Accounting and Reporting Standards seminar was held as a hybrid seminar (both live and by webinar). The Steve Dilley and Doug Van Der Aa tax update seminars were held as webinars. The Professional Tax Institute (PTI) seminar was held as a live event only.

We held our annual Christmas party on December 1, 2022 at the Natsunoya Teahouse. We had 73 participants attending the Christmas party. We had great fellowship and food. Everyone enjoyed the event.

Our annual year end installation banquet will be held on June 8, 2023 at the 100 Sails Restaurant at the Hawaii Prince Hotel. We hope to have many members attend this event.

I would like to thank the Oahu Chapter board and committee chairpersons for all their hard work this past year.

Sincerely,

*Eric H. Matsuda*

Eric H. Matsuda, CPA  
Oahu Chapter President



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### MAUI CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT 2022 – 2023

This year has been a transition year. The covid pandemic seems to have lessened and there were more in-person activities, including HAPA's seminars. Our seminar for Walter Haig was held at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center in September 2022. The Dilley seminar was through webinar. Maui's PTI seminar was held at the Maui Beach Hotel in January 2023. The attendance is still not back to pre-covid numbers but it's better than last year. As always, the attendees were happy to be there, to hear and see the speakers, and to see each other. HAPA-Maui Chapter also held its Christmas party in December 2022 at the Fairmont Kea Lani Hotel in Wailea. The event was a very nice dinner with grab bag and gifts for everyone that attended. It was good to see and socialize with fellow colleagues and friends. HAPA-Maui Chapter is also hosting the 2023 Convention in Japan to be held in May 2023.

Our Maui Chapter's outstanding member of the year is Marilyn Niwao. Marilyn has been there for HAPA for so many years. This year, besides being the State President for HAPA and working on legislation to benefit HAPA, she is the chairperson the HAPA convention to be held in Japan. It's not an easy task to plan a convention outside of the U.S.A., but she did it. This planning has been ongoing for several years, as the original Japan convention was to be held in June 2020, but was cancelled due to covid. We appreciate her perseverance in maintaining the Japan contacts, speakers, and working with everyone to get the convention ready for the HAPA members to expand their knowledge base and experience a new culture. From HAPA-Maui Chapter, we would like to thank Marilyn for all that she does for the organization.

This year's Leighton K. Matsuyama Scholarship Fund recipient is Ramon Rode. Ramon graduated from King Kekaulike High School on Maui and is attending the University of Hawaii, Maui Campus working towards a Bachelors program in Applied Business and Information Technology. He is excelling in his field of studies. Congratulations to Ramon!

I would like to thank my fellow officers - Robert Kawahara, vice-president, Marilyn Niwao, treasurer, Mindy Fusato, recording secretary, Russell Yamane, corresponding secretary and directors, Shaun Thayer and Ross Fusato for your assistance with HAPA-Maui Chapter. Your help and diligence are what makes HAPA a very successful organization.

Respectfully submitted,

*Colleen Takamura, CPA*

Maui Chapter President



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### **BIG ISLAND CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT 2022 - 2023**

Aloha,

Last year was an exciting year and was back to business with in person seminars along with a fun Christmas party and Installation Luncheon. It was nice to see familiar faces and to reconnect. Although the covid pandemic changed the world, when we came back together it was as if nothing changed.

Thank you to my fellow officers Catherine Madden (Vice President), Juvette Gomes (Treasurer), Keith Marrack (Secretary) along with the Big Island State Director Nathan Colgrove. I am grateful to have your help this year. Also, a big thank you to Val Peralto for all her help in coordinating seminars for our members.

I would also like to congratulate our State Director Nathan Colgrove for being our outstanding member of the year. I truly appreciate the time you put into serving as our director and also for the fantastic convention booklet.

Mahalo,

*Shannon Wibberley*

Shannon Wibberley  
Big Island Chapter President



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## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Eric H. Matsuda, Membership Chairman

### New Members

The Membership Committee has submitted for Board approval 33 membership applications for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

	<u>Regular/ Associate</u>	<u>Young Professionals</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Total</u>
Hawaii	4	3	-	7
Kauai	1	2	1	4
Maui	5	3	-	8
Oahu	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	=	<u>14</u>
	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>33</u>





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### HAPA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT 2022 - 2023

During the 2023 legislative session, HAPA was very busy testifying against two flawed “no notice, no fees” CPA mobility bills, SB727 and its companion bill, HB797. Both bills were very similar to bills from prior years, and both were again supported by the HSCPA and certain employees of the large international CPA firms. The Hawaii Board of Public Accountancy voted to oppose these bills due to consumer protection concerns, among other issues. HAPA has also testified in opposition to these bills, and was successful in stopping SB727 in the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection. In addition, although HB797 passed the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, the bill failed to be heard in the Senate.

HAPA and its members testified that SB727 and HB797 would result in 1) a loss of Hawaii jobs, 2) a loss of tax and license fee revenue, and 3) a loss of consumer protection for Hawaii consumers. HAPA pointed out that SB727 and HB797 allow out-of-state CPAs to practice in Hawaii with lower licensing standards and no licensing fees, while Hawaii-licensed CPAs are held to higher standards and requirements, such as being subjected to Hawaii mandatory peer review for compilation and review reports, and high license fees. In addition, Hawaii CPAs would be paying Hawaii’s unique General Excise taxes on service income, which were previously not paid by approximately 70% of out-of-state CPA firms until Hawaii’s rules were changed requiring CPA firms to provide notice that they had obtained a Hawaii General Excise Tax License number (needed to pay Hawaii taxes). Allowing “no notice” for out-of-state CPAs practicing in Hawaii would mean that Hawaii would no longer be able to effectively collect taxes and sanction out-of-state CPA practitioners.

In September 2022, over 27% of the total number of licensed Hawaii CPAs (or 742) were out-of-state CPAs who were already licensed to practice in Hawaii. In addition, Hawaii allows for the issuance of temporary permits to practice for out-of-state CPAs. There obviously is no shortage of Hawaii licensed CPAs to provide public accounting services to Hawaii consumers.

HAPA also successfully testified against SB924, SD1 relating to taxation, and the bill ultimately failed to pass. HAPA informed the Senate Ways & Means committee that eliminating the home mortgage interest deduction on second homes would only adversely affect Hawaii residents with second mortgages, and not out-of-state residents who owned second homes in Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,

HAPA Legislative Committee Co-Chairpersons:

*Marilyn M. Niwao*

Marilyn M. Niwao, M.S.P.H., J.D., CPA, CGMA

*Brian M. Iwata*

Brian M. Iwata, CPA



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### HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023

The Hawaii Association of Public Accountants Scholarship Fund awarded the following Scholarships during the year:

#### HAWAII CHAPTER

Lindsay Emerson  
Amanda Slavey  
Kayla Okahara-Olsen  
Kacelyn Kubojiri

#### MAUI CHAPTER

Zane Sniffen

#### OAHU CHAPTER

Scheduled to resume fall 2023

The Hawaii Association of Public Accountants Oahu Chapter Endowed Scholarship awarded its scholarship to:

Keith Rondal

In addition the Oahu Chapter funded the following awards:

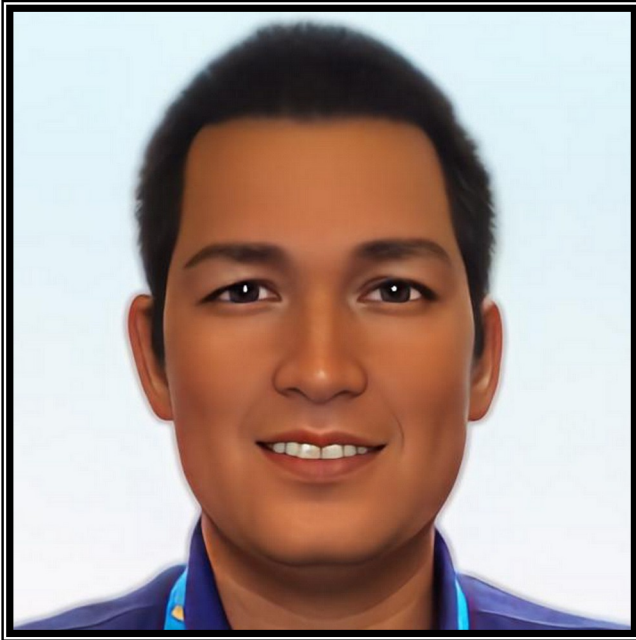
#### UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII - MANOA

Haiying Li - Outstanding Senior in Accounting Award  
Jillian Marc Jefre Felipe - Special Junior in Accounting Award

#### UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII - WEST OAHU

Scheduled to resume Spring 2024

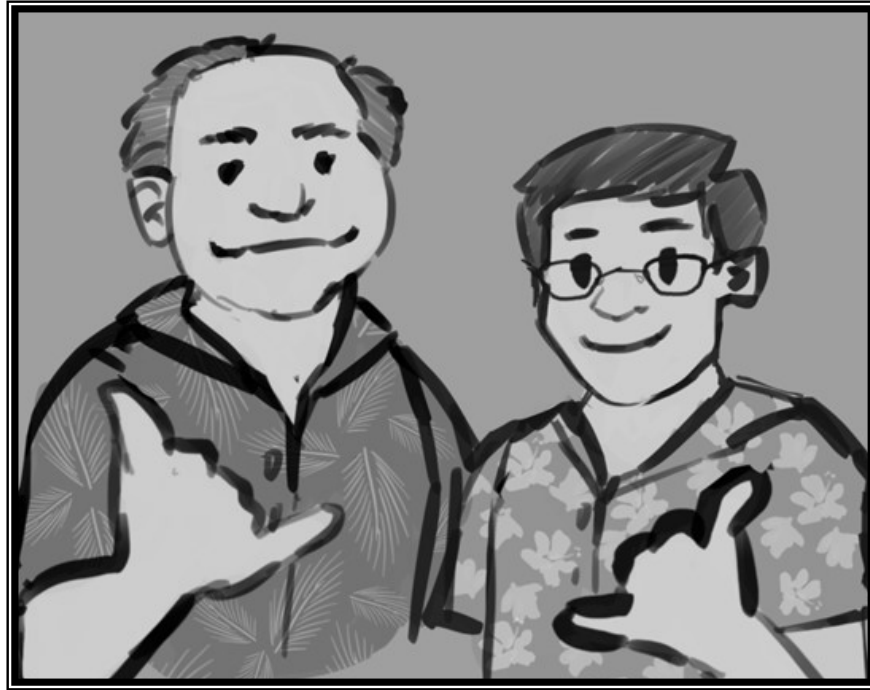
In total more than \$8,500.00 in Scholarships and Awards were given out from the Scholarship and Endowment Fund during the year. **Thank you HAPA members for your generous donations and support.**



## **Nathan Colgrove**

### **Outstanding Member Big Island Chapter**

Nathan Colgrove is the Big Island Chapter's member of the year. Growing up in the Phoenix area, Nathan graduated from Westmont College in 1999, and became a CPA in 2002. Beginning his career with the firm Hocking, Denton, Palmquist in Central California, he then moved to Hilo on the Island of Hawaii, following his beautiful wife Sapphire in 2005. 3 children later Nathan became a partner in 2019 at Taketa, Iwata, Hara & Associates, LLC. Many HAPA convention booklets later, Nathan is now again serving on the HAPA board of directors, as a director. Previously Nathan served on the Big Island Chapter board. At the present time, Nathan spends his time raising his kids, and enjoying the many compliments his staff pay him, "your quite possibly the greatest boss I have ever had!". The Big Island Chapter proudly recognizes Nathan Colgrove as this year's Outstanding Member.



## **Tim Albao, CPA & Lon Shimanuki, CPA**

### **Outstanding Member Kauai Chapter**

Two professional gents serving the Kauai Chapter for a combined 50 years plus. Without question, Tim Albao, CPA, and Lon Shimanuki, CPA, are outstanding Kauai members!

We are ever grateful and cannot thank you enough for your numerous years of service and support.

Mahalo nui loa!



## **Marilyn M. Niwao, MSPH, J.D., CPA**

### *Outstanding Member Maui Chapter*

Marilyn M. Niwao, M.S.P.H., J.D., CPA, CGMA has been extremely busy with HAPA activities this past year, serving not only as HAPA State President, but also as the Japan State Convention Chairperson for HAPA. Marilyn is also HAPA's Legislative Committee Co-Chairperson and its Continuing Professional Education Co-chairperson. She has also served HAPA as a past State President, past State Vice President, and past Maui Chapter President and Treasurer.

Marilyn is both a Hawaii CPA and attorney, and is President of Niwao & Roberts, CPAs, a P.C. where she has practiced public accounting for many years with her husband John W. Roberts, MBA, CPA, CGMA and staff. She previously was the manager-in-charge of the Maui Office tax department of Deloitte, Haskins & Sells (currently Deloitte), and was a former tax specialist with Coopers & Lybrand (currently PricewaterhouseCoopers).

Marilyn graduated from the University of Washington in Seattle with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and a two-year Master of Science in Public Health degree in Biostatistics. She earned her law degree from the University of Michigan Law School in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She also took post-graduate courses in accounting at the University of Hawaii, Manoa.

Aside from her activities with HAPA, Marilyn currently serves as Vice Chair of the Council on Revenues for the State of Hawaii (seven-member Council prepares State of Hawaii revenue forecasts for the Governor and State Legislature for use in the State's budget), where she has been involved from 2011. She also served as a Past President of the National Society of Accountants (NSA) and for nine years held leadership positions on the national governing board of NSA.

Marilyn previously served as a Commissioner for the Hawaii Tax Review Commission and served on the Hawaii Campaign Spending Commission Blue Ribbon Recodification Committee. She currently is a member of the AICPA, NSA, HSCPA, American Bar Association and Hawaii and Maui Bar Associations.

In whatever spare time she has left, Marilyn enjoys traveling with her husband. She has traveled to Japan several times over the years, and was first introduced to Japan by her nisei parents at age 15. Her most recent trip to Japan was in November 2022, where she again loved traveling on the Shinkansen, the fast bullet trains.





## **Frederick W. “Rick” Gundlach, Esq., CPA**

### **Outstanding Member Oahu Chapter**

Rick Gundlach is in his sixth year as a member of HAPA, and has lived in Japan for 11 of the last eighteen years. He was inspirational in encouraging us to hold an annual convention in Japan, and has been the Japan-side contact in some key aspects of the planning for this year’s convention.

Rick is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School (B.S. 1987) and Temple University’s Beasley School of Law (J.D. 1993). And he is, in fact, usually the only JD/CPA listed in the IRS PTIN directory—for all of Japan.

Rick practices US tax and legal matters most of the year in Narita, Japan, where he lives, but also maintains a Pennsylvania-based practice. So we see him in between! He is a member of the bar of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and a licensed CPA in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Hawai’i.

As a work-from-homer since the pandemic “Before Times”, Rick has learned that daily walking is key to maintaining a good attitude. In seven years, Rick tells us, he’s walked Narita City for over 13,000 miles. Rick says he is a casual person who takes important things seriously.

HAPA thanks Rick for his dedicated service to HAPA.

# Convention Speakers



**Bob Jennings, CPA (Licensed in Indiana), EA, TaxSpeaker®, Jeffersonville, Indiana**

Bob is a nationally renowned author and speaker, presenting continuing education classes to over 100,000 tax professionals over the last 20 years all over the world. Bob is a licensed CPA (Indiana), and an IRS Enrolled Agent. Bob is also a prolific author and has published over 60 professional articles in such magazines as the Journal of Accountancy as well as many other professional and consumer publications; annually authors several tax, accounting and technology manuals; and is a regular columnist for [FoxBusiness.com](http://FoxBusiness.com).

As the founder of his own regional CPA firm in 1984, Bob has dealt exclusively with individual and small business financial issues for over 30 years. Bob appears regularly in the media and has been quoted extensively by numerous publications. He has recorded an extensive number of information videos, DVD's and instructional clips available on his website at [TaxSpeaker.com](http://TaxSpeaker.com).



**Milton Fujii, President of 3 Katto LLC, dba Daiso Hawaii; Director of Import—HouseMart Ace Hardware, Ben Franklin Crafts, and Dean's Inc., Hawaii**

Milton Fujii is the Director of Imports and a member of the Executive Management Team of Maui Varieties, Ltd., which is the Hawaii parent company (est. 1951) to the popular Ace Hardware Hawaii, Inc., Ben Franklin Crafts stores, and Daiso stores in Hawaii. The locally-owned Hawaii consolidated group started its humble beginnings in Kahului, Maui by issei Grandmother Shikano Kamitaki who first started a local dry goods store in 1934 as an immigrant. Nisei children Tadami Kamitaki and Matsuko Mizoguchi who worked in the dry goods store then acquired the franchise rights from Ben Franklin Stores. The company has grown to include stores in Hawaii, Seattle, Oregon, and Las Vegas. The company is currently run by sansei grandchildren with the help of professional outside managers, including Mr. Fujii, who is president of 3 Katto, LLC. In 2021, Maui Varieties Ltd./HouseMart was

inducted into the Hawaii Small Business Hall of Fame.

Mr. Fujii has worked at Maui Varieties, Ltd. and its subsidiaries for about 47 years, working in various positions throughout his career. He has established business relationships with Japanese companies for the past 20+ years, and has helped the company grow.

Mr. Fujii earned an accounting degree from the University of Hawaii on Oahu and started working for Ben Franklin Stores upon graduating. During the 1990s, he started traveling to Japan to conduct international business. Ben Franklin Stores, Ace Hardware Stores, and Daiso stores import products from Japan.

When not working, Milton enjoys spending time with his family, and on occasion, plays golf.



**Michael H. Shikuma, Attorney (Hawaii), and Japan Licensed Foreign Law Attorney, Tokyo, Japan**

Michael H. Shikuma specializes in international tax and cross-border estate planning in Japan, the US, and the Asia-Pacific region. With over 30 years of professional practice experience, he assists individuals and cross-border families with multi-jurisdiction asset holdings in developing tax-efficient structures for holding assets in various jurisdictions and minimizing gift, estate and inheritance taxes. In addition, he assists with cross-border probate and succession procedures and tax compliance for decedents with cross-border families and/or assets. He also assists entrepreneurs, SMEs, global companies, and investment funds with tax planning for cross-border corporate restructuring, investment and financing structures, and mergers and acquisitions, in Japan, the US, and the Asia-Pacific region. He has extensive US federal and state income, sales, and transfer tax experience, as well as experience in representing individual and corporate clients in tax controversy cases.

Mr. Shikuma is admitted to practice before the Hawai'i State Bar and the United States District Court for the District of Hawai'i. He is licensed as a foreign law lawyer in Japan (*Gaikokuhou Jimu Bengoshi*). In addition, Mr. Shikuma is a Certified Public Accountant\* (Hawai'i).

Mr. Shikuma is a regular featured speaker at the annual Asia Conference of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners ("STEP"), the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan, and other seminars/conferences. He has published numerous articles on international tax and estate planning in various periodicals, including *STEP Journal*, *IBFD*, *Tax Notes International*, *International Tax Review*, and *Asia-Pacific Journal of Taxation*. He has served as Co-Chair of the Taxation Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan, Chair of the Tax Section of the Hawai'i State Bar Association, and Co-Chair of the Tax Committee of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i. He received his J.D. from New York University School of Law and Bachelor of Accountancy, *summa cum laude*, from The George Washington University School of Government and Business Administration.

Mr. Shikuma is a "Band 1" Lawyer, Private Wealth Law – Japan, in *Chambers and Partners* High Net Worth Rankings (since 2018) and was selected Best Cross-Border Tax & Estate Planning Lawyer – Japan in *Acquisition International* 2019 Accounting, Audit and Tax Awards. Shikuma Law Office was awarded Best Cross-Border Estate Planning Law Specialists – Japan in *New World Report's Legal Elite Awards 2021*, and Best Cross-Border Estate Planning Law Firm – Japan by *APAC Insider's* 5th Annual Legal Awards (2019).

\*-not in public practice.



**Katsumi Naito, Japanese Tax Accountant, Ginza, Tokyo, Japan**

Katsumi is a member of the Tokyo Tax Accountants Association. He is the owner of a tax accounting firm in Ginza, Tokyo which specializes in consulting, tax accounting, judicial scrivener, social insurance and labor.

His column in the Nihon Keizai Shimbun (Japan's most authoritative economic newspaper), spun off and became a best seller named "Regrettable Inheritance", selling more than 40 thousand copies.

Mr. Naito also has given many lectures at the Japan Bar Association, major banks, etc.

Since 2014, he has worked on many tax returns for Hawaii real estate investments for wealthy individuals and has been a speaker at the Japanese Track of the Hawaii Tax Institute (HTI) since 2019. He personally owns a condominium in Hawaii himself and is one of the few experts who is familiar with Japanese and Hawaii taxation. He

enjoys SUP (Stand up Paddle) every day when he is in Hawaii. He is from Nagaoka, which is a city famous for its fireworks in the Niigata Prefecture.



**Eri Shima, J.D., CPA, OCCPA LLC, Honolulu, Hawaii**

Eri is currently the head of the Japanese practice group of OCCPA LLC, a Honolulu public accounting firm dedicated to providing creative accounting and income tax, estate, and trust tax solutions.

Her practice areas include cross-border estate and income tax planning, individual, trust, and estate taxes. Her past experiences include Deloitte & Touch and Watanabe & Ing law firm, both in Honolulu, and Goldman Sacks Japan and other major international financial institutions in Tokyo, Hong Kong, and Singapore.

Bachelor and Master of Management Degrees from Gakushuin University, Tokyo, Japan, and J.D. from William S. Richardson School of Law of the University of Hawaii.

Member of Hawaii State Bar Association, Association of International Certified Professional Accountants, Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants, Hawaii Association of Public Accountants, and Hawaii Estate Planning Council where she is a current director.

She is bilingual in English and Japanese.





**Creighton Aotani, OCCPA LLC, and Pacific Bridge International LLC, Honolulu, Hawaii**

Creighton is currently a cross-border consultant for numerous businesses, dealing with Hawaii, Japan, and Singaporean companies.

Born and raised in Hawaii, moved to Japan after graduating college. He has been living in Japan for over 30 years. Most of the companies that he had worked for were listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange and he can be categorized as a "salaryman". His experiences are vast, from cutting-edge e-commerce companies to telecommunications, and investment banks, which some can be very traditional "old" school" Japanese companies. He has learned the ins and outs of the Japanese culture, the good and the bad, and also from a US Citizen's point of view. He also has worked with many people from other prefectures.

He has traveled and worked with people from 42 of the 47 prefectures in Japan.

He is bilingual in English, Japanese, and Pidgeon too... (Even the Japanese can't tell he is an American)



**“HAPA WARRIOR”**

A HAPA Warrior knows that the “P” in CPA stands for

**PUBLIC**



# Notes

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# Notes

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# Notes

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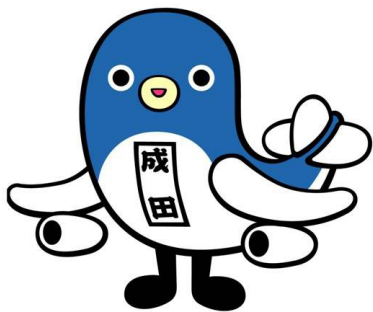
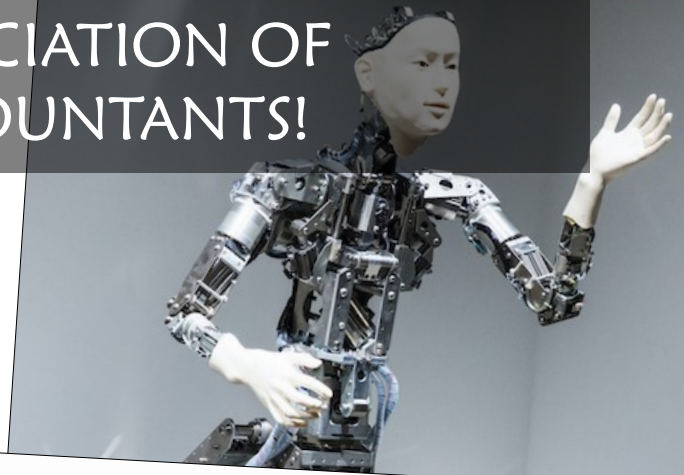


# Notes

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MAHALO FOR SUPPORTING  
HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF  
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS!





# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Hawaii Association of Public Accountants would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their contributions, help, and participation at our 67th Annual State Convention:

**City of Narita, Mayor Kazunari Koizumi**

**City of Narita, Deputy Mayor Kenji Sekine**

**City of Narita Tourism Division, City Promotion Department**

**Chiba Convention Bureau and International Center (CCB-IC),**

**and Ms. Gina Rivera**

**Hilton Tokyo Narita Airport Hotel and Mr. Saburo Sakuma**

**Maui Varieties, Ltd. and Daiso Hawaii**

**JTB USA Inc. Honolulu Branch, and Ms. Kazuko Spear**

## Speakers

**Bob Jennings, CPA, EA, TaxSpeaker®**

**Milton Fujii, President of 3 Katto LLC, dba Daiso Hawaii**

**Michael H. Shikuma, Attorney (Hawaii), Japan Licensed Foreign Law Attorney**

**Katsumi Naito, Japanese tax accountant**

**Eri Shima, J.D., CPA, OCCPA LLC**

**Creighton Aotani, OCCPA LLC, and Pacific Bridge International LLC**

**...to the Maui Chapter Convention Committee, HAPA Members, and Convention Attendees.**

