

MONTHLY BULLETIN



KA LEO O HAWAII KAI



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President's Message:

Aloha Members and Friends,

I am humbled and proud to serve as your President for the 2026–2027 year. I appreciate your faith and confidence in me and will strive to the utmost to fulfill my mission as President. From my few short years with the Club, I know that we have a great group of members. I sincerely appreciate all of your support and assistance.

As this is our first Bulletin of the year, let me reflect a little on the recent events that closed out last year. We had a wonderful 53rd Charter Banquet on June 13, 2026, at 3660 on the Rise. Many District leaders, as well as members of other clubs, were in attendance to show their support and recognition of the Hawaii Kai Lions.

We also bid a fond farewell to President Kendrick Chang. Kendrick stepped up when we really needed him following the unfortunate passing of Diane Taira. We owe him a huge debt of gratitude. Fortunately, he will continue to play a vital role in assisting the Club, as the Immediate Past President serves on the Board for the 2026–2027 year. I am personally very grateful for his continued advice and support. We also had a hugely successful Fathers' Day Breakfast event on June 21, 2026. The word "awesome" has been rightly used to describe the incredible hard work of our Club members, their family members, and friends of the Club who put in so much time and effort. I would like to add the word "epic" to the description of the Breakfast.

The success of the Breakfast is also a testament to the community's recognition of our many good works over the years and their appreciation for what we do. You can read more details about these events later in this Bulletin.

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As you know, we will have our next regular meeting on Thursday, July 16, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lunalilo Home clubhouse. We are starting the new year off right with the induction of two new members. We will also have a brief special guest appearance by Project Grad to say “thank you” to the Club.

In addition, we will spend some time discussing our members’ thoughts about the Club and its activities. We try to do this once every two years so that everyone feels positive about the Club, its activities, and its direction. This is vital to keeping our Club fresh, relevant, and enjoyable. Everyone’s voice is welcome, so please make sure to take part in this process.

Following that meeting, your Board will hold a special meeting on Saturday, July 18. We will be discussing the survey results from July 16, as well as setting up a process to continue reviewing feedback that comes in afterward. We will also be firming up our all-important committee structure and finalizing as much as possible of the Club’s budget for the coming year.

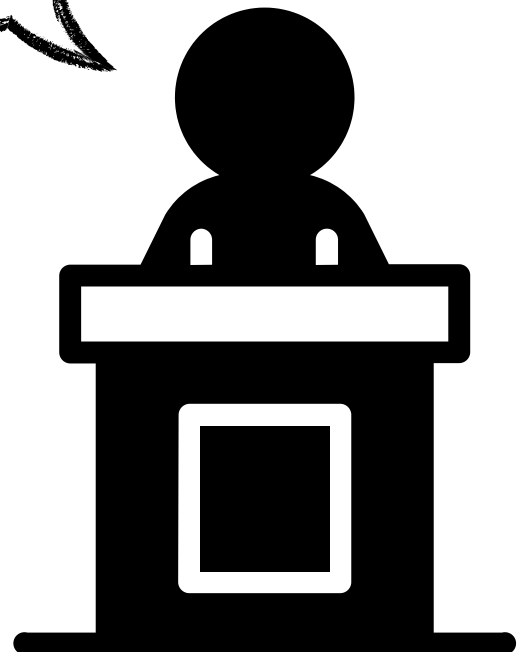
As a member, your input is always welcomed and encouraged on all of these topics. Your participation in projects, committees, and Club leadership is vital. You can always contact me at dhkarlen@gmail.com, and I will gladly pass along your thoughts and concerns to the Board.

Mahalo to all of our Members.

David Karlen



*Serving a
World in Need*



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A festive graphic for Independence Day. The text "Happy INDEPENDENCE Day!" is centered, with "Happy" in red script, "INDEPENDENCE" in large blue block letters, and "Day!" in red script. Below this, the number "250" is displayed in a large font with an American flag pattern (stars and stripes). The background is decorated with yellow stars, blue stars, and two bursts of red, white, and blue fireworks. The entire graphic is set against a white background with blue and yellow decorative borders at the top and bottom.

Happy INDEPENDENCE Day!

250

Happy 250th Independence Day! As our nation marks this historic Semiquincentennial milestone, we reflect on the powerful intersection of liberty and community service. For over a century, Lions have answered the call to strengthen our communities, embodying the very spirit of unity and progress that has defined America for 250 years.

This 4th of July, let us celebrate the freedoms we cherish and recommit ourselves to our enduring motto: "We Serve." Thank you for your continued dedication to making our community a better place for all. Have a safe and happy holiday!



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FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

Submitted by: Frances Lum



The Hawaii Kai Lions Club is an incredible organization with awesome members and companions in service. You showed your dedication starting way back in April, when you fanned out into the neighborhoods to sell tickets with Lion Ken Nishibun leading the way, while others stood outside Longs and Safeway with Lion David Iwana, and many spent long hours at craft fairs with Lion Joni Fukuji or at the Kaiser farmers' market with Lion Yolisa Ishibashi. Thanks to Lions Zeke Bernardo-Flores, tech savvy people were able to buy tickets online. Altogether, you sold over 3,800 tickets, beating last year's total, plus over 100 more breakfasts were bought the morning of. The grand total in ticket sales was 3,954! And through it all, Lion Jeanne Alices kept track of the money and sales with patience and precision.

On Father's Day, while most of the neighborhood was asleep, Chef Edison and his team were in the kitchen by midnight. The veggies and sauce were prepped earlier, but the rice had to be cooked fresh, so the day started early. By 3 a.m., Lion Tom Jones, also a chef, was in the kitchen. By 5 a.m. Lions, CISs, and friends began rolling in to the aroma of cooking onions and sausage. Lion Tom was already elbowdeep in fried rice, mixing huge trays as the kitchen heated up — literally and figuratively.

It was hot, it was busy, and it never really slowed down. But everyone kept at it, and close to 3,600 breakfasts were plated for customers and volunteers, too — thanks to Lion Eric Kimura, who handled all the manpower assignments. The Kaiser Girls Soccer team washed an endless supply of trays and pans, helping to keep everything flowing.

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Meanwhile, the parking lot turned into the biggest take-out operation on the island. Under Lion Ken's direction, tents and tables went up before sunrise. The first cars arrived around 6 a.m., and thanks to the quick work in the cafeteria — plus smooth transport coordination from Lion Eric Kwick — customers were being served even before the official 6:30 start. Cars kept coming steadily all morning. And while there were a few stretches where the line backed up, people were patient and understanding. By the end of the morning, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. People loved the food and appreciated how smoothly the pickup went, even with the occasional wait.

You worked hard, you worked together, and you made this year's fundraiser a tremendous success. And you showed why this club is something truly special. A big heartfelt thank you to each one of you as well as to friends of Lions and Lions from other clubs.



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HAHAIONE CLASSROOM PAINTING

Submitted by: Ken Nishibun

The Hawaii Kai Lions Club was back in action recently, rolling up our sleeves to bring a vibrant new look to Hahaione Elementary School. In a coordinated effort, our dedicated members stepped up to prepare and paint three fifth-grade classrooms, ensuring the students have a bright, clean, and inspiring environment to walk into.

The project kicked off well before the first paintbrush was dipped. Our team, led by Lion Eric Kvick, carefully calculated the required materials, purchased all the necessary supplies—including high-quality paint, rollers, brushes, painters tape, and drop cloths—and organized the logistics to make the workdays run like a well-oiled machine.

When the workdays arrived, the energy was high. The classroom transformation required meticulous preparation. On June 18 and June 20, Lions Eric, Frances Lum, Ken Nishibun, and CIS Tony Nakamura worked side-by-side to patch up imperfections, sand the walls, and precisely tape off borders and trim to guarantee a professional finish. Once the prep work was complete, the real fun began on June 23 and June 25 when volunteer staff, including Principal Cappy Goo, and parents from Hahaione divided into teams to apply fresh coats of paint that instantly brightened up the spaces.

Thanks to the incredible turnout and the efficient coordination of our project leader, what could have been a daunting task was completed smoothly and ahead of schedule. A huge mahalo to all the Lions who donated their time and energy to this project. By investing in our local schools, we continue to fulfill our mission of serving the Hawaii Kai community and supporting our youth. The next time you pass by Hahaione Elementary, know that a piece of our Lions pride is hard at work inside those classrooms!

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CHARTER CELEBRATION & OFFICER INSTALLATION

Submitted by: Spencer Kimura



This event brought several present and past District Governors and leaders from other Lions clubs and the Kaiser Leo Club President together to celebrate our 53rd Charter Anniversary. Lion Susan Uehara and Lion David Iwana served as co-MC's. We honored original Charter Member, Bunny Lee. District Governor Sean Benito gave a message about the importance of service. Lion Spencer Kimura read a congratulatory message from the President of the Nagoya Joto Lions Club. Past International Director Bob Lee presented the Hall of Fame award to CIS Carole Wee and Phillip Wee. Lion Ken Nishibun presented the Melvin Jones Fellowship award to Lion Eric Kwick. CIS Patsy Takesu made a surprise announcement that she wanted to make a special donation of \$6000 to the Club. Kaiser High School Leo Club President Sabrina Johnson gave a few words. Outgoing President, Kendrick Chang gave a message reflecting on his tenure for 2 terms, and then presented the 'Lion of the Year' award to Lion Yolisa Ishibashi. Then there was a silly skit to roast President Kendrick. District Governor Sean Benito lead the installation ceremony of the new officers. Newly installed President-elect, David Karlen, gave his remarks. Then there were about 30 door prizes given away before the event closed with everyone joining hands and singing Hawaii Aloha.

Donations: A Huge Mahalo to Lion Sydney Kamm, Wanda Kimura, David Iwana, Ellsworth Fujii, Jeane Alices, Eric Kwick and Yolisa Ishibashi for donating door prizes.

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RESCUE TUBE PROJECT

Submitted by: Yolisa Ishibashi



Thanks to the relentless dedication of our very own Eric Kwick, a brand-new rescue tube was recently installed out in Ewa! Eric's hard work on the ground is already making waves—so much so that City and County of Honolulu Ocean Safety has taken notice.

In a major win for public safety, Ocean Safety is now looking to scale this initiative by installing a rescue tube at every single lifeguard station across the island.



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COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: HAMMONDS GOURMET ICE CREAM

Submitted by: Yolisa Ishibashi



A heartfelt mahalo to Trang and Ryan Hammond of Hammonds Gourmet Ice Cream for their generous donation of gift certificates for our Junior Police Officers (JPOs). Their commitment to community goes far beyond serving delicious treats—they continue to invest in Hawai'i by supporting local farmers and working to incorporate more locally grown fruits into their products.

The Hammonds have also shown tremendous compassion through their recent flood relief fundraiser, dedicating proceeds to support those affected. In addition, their fundraising program gives back in a meaningful way, with 50% of sales benefiting clubs and organizations that partner with them.

We are grateful for community-minded partners like Trang and Ryan, whose spirit of giving strengthens Hawai'i one scoop at a time. The Hawaii Kai Lions Club sends our love, support, and heartfelt appreciation to the Hammond 'ohana for all they do for our community.



Hammond's Gourmet Ice Cream
Koko Marina Shopping Center 7192 Kalaniana'ole Hwy, Suite D-103
(808) 354-7201
info@hammondsicecream.com
[Hammonds Ice Cream Website](https://www.hammondsgourmet.com/gallery)



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CELEBRATION OF LIFE, YOSHI KOBAYASHI*Submitted by: David Iwana*

Tomoko Kobayashi advised that her husband, Yoshi Kobayashi, suddenly passed away in January this year, as the result of cancer. Many of you may remember Kobayashi-san as a past member of the Nagoya Joto Lions Club. For years he was the liaison between our clubs in arranging charter celebration visits, both here and in Nagoya. He was a great Lion, as well as a close personal friend. On behalf of our club, Lion David Iwana gave our condolences.

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FUTURE EVENTS

Date	Time	Event	Location	Attire	Project Chair
Thu, 7/9	8:30am - 12pm	Traffic Signal Box Painting	Kalaniana'ole Hwy & HK Drive	Work Shirt	Allen Umeda
Fri, 7/10	8:30am - 12pm	Traffic Signal Box Painting	Kalaniana'ole Hwy & HK Drive	Work Shirt	Allen Umeda
Sat, 7/10 Pending	8:30am - 12pm	Traffic Signal Box Painting	Kalaniana'ole Hwy & HK Drive	Work Shirt	Allen Umeda
Thu, 7/16	7pm - 8pm	Membership Meeting	Lunalilo Home	Club Shirt	N/A
Sat, 7/18	8am - 10:30am	Safe Sidewalks	Kalama Village Shopping Center	Work Shirt	Yolisa Ishibashi
Sat, 7/18	8am - 2pm	HUGS Memorial Garden Clean Up	Sunset Ranch (north shore)	Work Shirt	Eric Kvick
Mon, 7/20	9am - 11:30am	CF Leu's Celebration of Life	Hosoi Mortuary	Club Shirt	Frances Lum
Sat, 7/25	8am - 10:30am	Drive-Thru Shred & Recycle	Koko Marina Center	Work Shirt	Allen Umeda

Birthdays

7/7, Jeff Kramer
 7/9, Eric Kwick
 7/12, Keith Kogachi
 7/14, Sandra Gomes
 7/19, Bunny Lee
 7/21, Melissa Mullen
 7/23, Kayla Gomes
 7/26, Joel Leo

Membership

Active	56
Student	0
Affiliate	4
Associate	3
At-Large	4
Privileged	0
Total	67

Date of Induction

7/1, Kendrick Chang
 7/1, Dr. Roger Ede
 7/1, Ellsworth Fujii
 7/1, Nancy Rocheleau
 7/1, Walter Kuroiwa
 7/1, Edward Lee
 7/3, Kayla Gomes
 7/6, Sarah Overmeyer
 7/6, Kelvin Kaneoka
 7/7, Pamela Lee
 7/18, Frances Lum
 7/18, David Karlen
 7/19, Kiyohide Noguchi

Club Officers '26-'27

President, David Karlen
 IPP, Kendrick Chang
 1st VP, Susan Uehara
 2nd VP, Brad Caldwell
 3rd VP, Spencer Kimura
 Secretary, Yolisa Ishibashi
 Treasurer, Ezekiel Flores
 Tail Twister, Joni Fukuji
 Lion Tamer, Kelvin Kaneoka
 Membership Chair, Allen Umeda
 Director (2yr term), Frances Lum
 Director (1yr term), Dr. Roger Ede
 Marketing Chair, Kayla Gomes
 Service Chair, Alvin Hayahibara
 Program Coordinator, Ellsworth Fujii

District 50 Region V, Zone 2

Honolulu, HI - Chartered 4/9/1973
 Intl. President, Mark Lyon
 District Governor, Dr. Cedric Mitsui
 1st VDG, Anthony "Tony" Tassillo
 2nd VDG, David Iwana
 Zone Chair, Jaci Yokogawa