

MONTHLY BULLETIN



KA LEO O HAWAII KAI



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President's Message:

Aloha Members and Friends,

Now that summer is winding down, we can look forward to renewed activity in our core programs of vision screening and hearing screening. Labor Day is "late" this year, and the schools seemed to have started earlier. This resulted in some initial scheduling difficulties, but those seem to have been overcome. Many thanks to our veteran members Cynthia Chun and Dr. Roger Ede in that respect.

I hope all of you will check out the schedule if you haven't done so already. The Club traditionally does screenings at all three Hawaii Kai elementary schools. In addition, we help out other clubs at additional nearby schools. I anticipate that we will be thanking our new Associate Member, Gavin Hall, for his assistance at all of these schools.

At our August 20 meeting, we had the honor of hosting our new District Governor, Dr. Cedric Matsui. An excellent speaker, he effectively highlighted the District's goals for the year, plus he kindly donated some Big Island cookies for the evening's enjoyment. His donation of a \$100 honorarium will be deposited in our Club's gift account.

In addition to Dr. Matsui's references to the District Convention, we also had a presentation by Kobey Arai, who is in charge of that Convention. Since it is being held on Oahu this year (at the Kroc Center), it is much more affordable for our members. It's not too early to save the dates of April 23-25, 2027, and sign up for that activity on our website.

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Other items of note from the last membership meeting include the presentation of the Proud Lion certificate and pin to Lion Lyn Liu and Alvin Hiyashibara volunteering to be committee chairperson for our Special Olympics relationship.

We also briefly discussed that part of the Board's response to the members' survey is the establishment of new position in the area of public relations (we would appreciate suggestions as to the official title) to enhance our efforts in both outreach to potential new members as well as increasing our profile in the community in advance of our scheduled activities. Allen Umeda has gratefully volunteered to be the lead person here. We should be having further discussions at our September membership meetings as well as our September Board meeting.

Finally, please note that there will be no membership meeting on the first Thursday of November, November 5, 2026. Instead, our members can attend, as a group, the UH Women's Volleyball Team game on Saturday, November 7, 2026. Please be sure to sign up for that event if you have not done so already.

As always, please feel free to contact me at any time about any Club concerns.

Mahalo
David Karlen

Message from the editor:

- Please submit all activity reports and updates by the Saturday prior to the first meeting of the month.
- Got a special message, member shout-out, or exciting announcement? Email them directly to me so we can share the good news with the club! kaylagomes04@gmail.com
- Thank you so much for your continued support and for taking the time to read our monthly bulletin. Our club shines brighter because of dedicated members like **YOU!**

Kayla

MONTHLY BULLETIN

MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIP

Submitted by: Ken Nishibun

On June 13 at its Charter/Aloha Banquet, the Hawaii Kai Lions Club's presented one of the highest honors in all of Lionism, the Melvin Jones Fellowship to Lion Eric Kvick.

When Melvin Jones, founded this organization in 1917, he did so with a simple philosophy, he said: 'You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else.'

The Hawaii Kai Lions Club donated \$1,000 to the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) in the name of Lion Eric who has truly lived up to that philosophy.

Funds donated to the Foundation, which is the charitable arm of Lions Clubs, goes directly toward providing grants, and fighting blindness, providing disaster relief, and feeding the hungry here in Hawaii and across the globe.

The Hawaii Kai Lions Club has one of the highest number of Melvin Jones Fellows of any club in the State of Hawaii. In fact, since the charter of our club, our members have donated more than \$100,000 to LCIF.

Lion Eric has met, with distinction, all of the selection criteria of the Hawaii Kai Lions Club since joining in January 2013 and has served as Club President in 2020-2021.

This retired contractor has been the leading force for our major building projects including the teardown and rebuilding of the Hahaione front office, the building of 50 feet of cubicles for 120 band instruments at Kaiser High School band room, and many, many more. Over 10 years ago, he came up with this crazy idea of placing rescue tubes along some of the roughest coastline on Oahu. Today that rescue tube project has gained not only statewide recognition, but nationwide and worldwide acclaim. It has saved the lives of dozens of swimmers and because of its tremendous impact, this project and the Hawaii Kai Lions Club has won the prestigious Lions Clubs International Kindness Matters Service Award in 2025. This award is the first ever for Hawaii and was presented to only 30 Lions Clubs out of 49,000 clubs in the entire world.

Since Lion Eric is currently a Melvin Jones Fellow, having previously donated \$1,000, he is designated as a 1-Diamond Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow by LCIF.

District 50 LCIF Chair Past District Governor Gary Nip presented the 1-Diamond lapel pin acknowledging Total Donations of \$2,000 in the name of Lion Eric Kvick.



MONTHLY BULLETIN

CHONG FOOK “CF” LEU

Submitted by: Ken Nishibun

On July 20, family, friends, and fellow Lions gathered at Hosoi Mortuary for a Celebration of Life service honoring Chong Fook Leu, affectionately known to all of us as “CF”

As a dedicated member of the Hawaii Kai Lions Club, CF’s passing on February 13, 2026 marks the loss of a true pillar of our community. During the memorial, our club was privileged to conduct a special Lions service as part of the broader program, paying our final respects to a man who truly lived our motto, “We Serve.”

CF’s life was defined by his commitment to shaping the character of Hawaii’s youth, as well as his unwavering service to his country and community. For decades, CF was a beloved fixture at Kalani High School in Honolulu, where he served with distinction as a Physical Education teacher and Athletic Director. He mentored countless students and athletes, instilling in them the lifelong values of teamwork, resilience, and fair play.

Beyond his contributions to local education, CF bravely served our nation in the military, demonstrating a deep-rooted commitment to protecting and serving others.

CF’s history with Lions Clubs International is a remarkable testament to his enduring dedication to community betterment. He was a charter member of the Pali Lions Club upon its founding in 1962. We were incredibly fortunate when he later transferred his membership to the Hawaii Kai Lions Club and later served as its President in 1997-1998. Along with Companion-in-service Aki, they were inseparable at Lions projects and events.

To those who knew him, CF was much more than a teacher, a veteran, or a club member—he was a steadfast friend and a quiet leader.

Rest in peace, CF. Thank you for a lifetime of service.

MONTHLY BULLETIN

ANDREW “ANDY” URAMOTO*Submitted by: Ken Nishibun*

A Celebration of Life Service was held at Diamond Head Memorial Park on August 14 for our beloved Lion, Andrew “Andy” Uramoto.

Born in 1931, Andy stepped up whenever his country or community needed him. He served honorably during the Korean War, protecting the freedom we cherish today. When he returned home, that deep-seated desire to protect and serve led him to the Honolulu Police Department, where he dedicated over three decades of distinguished service—ultimately retiring as a Detective in 1984.

But Andy’s spirit of service did not end when he took off the badge. For 52 remarkable years, Andy was the heart and soul of the Hawaii Kai Lions Club by truly embodying our motto, “We Serve” He served as our President, providing steady leadership, wisdom, and a welcoming presence to generations of Lions. He also served for many years alongside Lion Rick Yee as advisors to the Kaiser High School LEOs where they mentored young leaders to serve their community.

Whenever you saw Andy—no matter how rough your day was or how heavy the workload felt—he always had a joke ready just to make you feel a little bit better. Beyond his duty and leadership, Andy was a man of warmth, humor, and simple pleasures. He loved a good round of golf, looked forward to trips to Japan and Las Vegas, and cherished time spent surrounded by his ohana—his beloved wife and Companion in Service (CIS) Nancy, his sons Blake and Greg, his daughters-in-law, and his four grandchildren.

Lion Andy, thank you for 52 years of unbroken fellowship, leadership, laughter, and service.

MONTHLY BULLETIN

IN MEMORY OF MINO TAKESU

Submitted by: Ken Nishibun



Patsy Takaesu, Companion-in-Service(CIS) to the late Lion Mino Takaesu recently donated a heavy-duty, 10ft x 20ft full-color canopy tent featuring the official Lions Club logo and a customized Hawaii Kai Lions banner. This gift, which displays "Donated by Lion Mino Takaesu", is a lasting legacy to Lion Mino who dedicated his life to the spirit of We Serve. It will directly support the club's financial health and community impact for years to come.

This professional, fully branded tent will enhance our public presence at multiple Club, District, and community projects such as our highly visible Father's Day Breakfast fundraiser. At this drive-thru project, it will house and safeguard the 3,500 prepared breakfast plates just prior to distribution, ensuring food safety and quality regardless of the weather.

The brand-new tent was unveiled at the very successful Kaiser Night Market on August 8 featuring dozens of food and craft vendors. It was used to provide cover for the dining area in the parking lot. Our smaller 10-foot logo tent was used for the entertainers. Both tents truly reflected the presence of the Hawaii Kai Lions Club.

MONTHLY BULLETIN

HUI NALU DONATION

Submitted by: Hui Nalu Canoe Club



Hui Nalu Canoe Club
P.O. Box 26342
Honolulu, HI 96825
www.huinalucanoecub.com

Aloha Hawaii Kai Lions,

Hui Nalu Canoe Club wants to support your Rescue Tub Project with a donation of \$500. This project fits well with Hui Nalu's mission in supporting our community.

Hui Nalu's mission is to promote and provide educational and personal achievement opportunities which strengthen family, community, and individual relationships by providing:

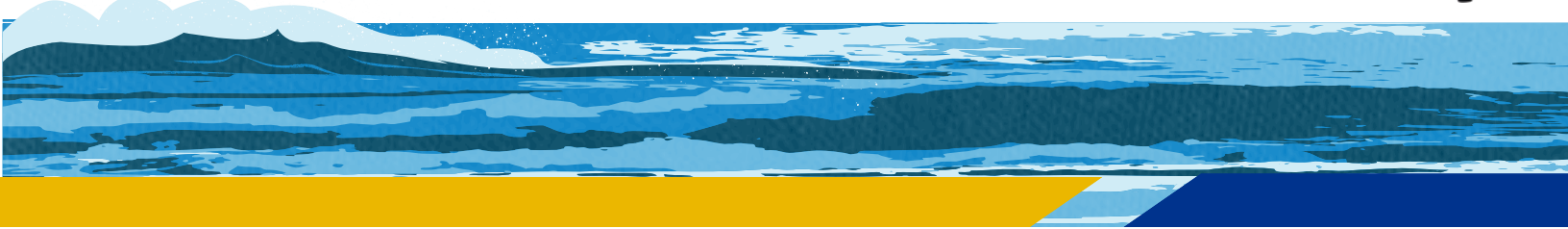
- Ocean oriented educational programs which are special to Hawai'i
- Other sports activities and programs
- Other community improvement educational programs
- Preserving Hawaiian traditions as they relate to the ocean

Our actions are guided by the following traditional Hawaiian values, 'ohana, pono, 'oia'io, ho'okipa, ha'aha'a, a'o, malama, lokomaika'i, 'imi'ike, mana, kokua, and lokahi which together promote safe, healthy, and productive living environments for our communities. Hui Nalu O Hawaii (Hui Nalu Canoe Club) integrates traditional outrigger canoe paddling with cultural and environmental awareness to encourage stewardship, health, education, and to celebrate the strength and importance of the community and 'ohana.

Mahalo for your support of our annual Kaiwi Coast Run & Walk which made this donation possible.

Sincerely,

Diane Warncke
Treasurer



MONTHLY BULLETIN

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

Submitted by: Lily Langeslay

Aloha Hawaii Kai Lions!

I have been a volunteer for the Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) for about 12 years helping them at their golf tournaments and gala events. I found the organization to be a valuable resource for families who are in need of support during the most stressful times imaginable - their children's critical illnesses and hospitalization. Not having to worry about paying for room and board while their children are undergoing long periods of treatment is truly a blessing.

When RMHC opened up their Hospitality Cart at Kapiolani Medical Center's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) in 2024, I jumped at the chance to become a regular volunteer.

The cart offers the families at the NICU refreshments like coffee, tea, hot cocoa, bottled water and a variety of snacks. We also provide activities such as coloring books and crayons, puzzles, card games, small toys, journals and pens (the siblings of the hospitalized babies really appreciate this!). Other necessities like laundry soap, toiletry items (toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, body wash, etc.) are also provided and are most welcome. All of this is totally free of charge.

If we can provide some of the items on the wish list on the next page, RMHC will be able to use those funds on other worthwhile projects.

For instance, next time you go shopping at Costco and have a lot of extra snacks, bring them to a meeting and I will take them to the hospital. The snacks can be given loose, not necessarily in the full box (as long as they are individually wrapped). Another good donation would be your extra mini toiletries from hotel stays and airline amenity packs. Toys and games should be new and unused.

The Ronald McDonald House Charities will provide a donation receipt for your tax purposes. We will need a list of your donated items along with your name and address for RMHC to acknowledge your gift.

I am hoping this project can be ongoing so that we can help replenish the cart from time to time. The goal is to collect donations starting from the September 3rd meeting. I will then arrange to have the Lions present the gift to the RMHC management for a photo opportunity.

I hope you will consider helping out with this worthwhile cause. Thanking you in advance for your kindness and generosity.



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RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

Submitted by: Lily Langeslay

RMHC has provided the following Wish List for the Hospitality Cart:

- **Individually wrapped snacks**

- o Cookies
- o Trail mix
- o Goldfish
- o Animal Crackers
- o Fruit Snacks
- o Granola/breakfast bars
- o Go-Gurt/Applesauce/Smoothie pouches
- o Graham crackers
- o Chips (regular and baked)
- o Fruit and pudding cups

- **Keurig coffee pods**

- o Variety
- o French roast
- o Caramel macchiato
- o Donut Shop

- **Notebooks and Journals**

- **Playing cards (variety children's card games like Uno, etc.)**

- **Sensory toys (fidget toys, etc.)**

- **Soft cloth baby books**

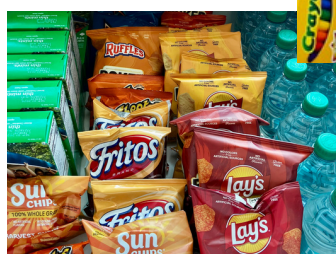
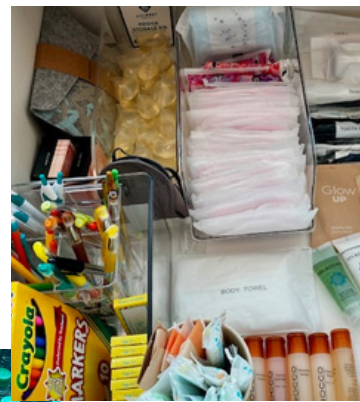
- **Coloring books (adult and children)**

- **Jumbo crayons**

- **Baby teething rings/rattles**

- **Craft activity kits**

- **Small toys and stuffed animals/dolls**



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KAHALA ELEMENTARY MINI-CARNIVAL

Submitted by: Frances Lum



As a prelude to the start of the new school year, Kahala Elementary School welcomed students and their families on the afternoon of July 30, 2026, for a chance to meet their teachers and drop off school supplies. Following the meet-and-greet, the campus came alive with FUN and FOOD at the school's "Finds & Grindz" event.

Open to both school families and the general public, Finds & Grindz featured an array of beautifully handcrafted items, local food vendors with the irresistible aroma of freshly prepared dishes. Adding to the excitement were mini carnival games sponsored by the Koko Head Lions Club.

Lions from Koko Head, Manoa, and Hawaii Kai, together with Leos from Roosevelt High School, volunteered as game operators for ring toss, spin-the-wheel, fishing, bowling, cornhole, and other family-friendly activities. The game booths were bustling throughout the afternoon, with plenty of smiles, laughter, and cheers as participants tested their skills and earned prizes.

By the end of the event, Lions Jeanne Alices, Janis Bumgarner, Cynthia Chun, John Kratochvil, and Frances Lum were feeling the effects of the day's high humidity and had worked up a healthy sweat. Nevertheless, they left energized by the joy of serving the community and sharing in the excitement of a fun-filled evening.



MONTHLY BULLETIN

HUGS MEMORIAL GARDEN

Submitted by: Marja Leivo



HUGS (Help, Understanding & Group Support) serves Hawaii's seriously ill children and their families. To support families after the passing of their child a memorial garden was created where they can plant a tree and have a peaceful place to visit and commemorate their child.

The HUGS Memorial Garden is above Pupukea on Oahu's North shore. Staff and volunteers of the program make regular visits to take care of the garden. Our Lions Club was invited to assist in the work day on July 18th. Seven of us joined in to spend the morning weeding, digging and watering to take care of the this garden in the forest, high above the sea. It was a beautiful day.



MONTHLY BULLETIN

PROJECT GRAD NIGHT MARKET

Submitted by: Spencer Kimura



You could really feel the Hawaii Kai Community Spirit at the Kaiser High School Class of 2027 Project Grad Night Market. Over 50 vendors, from Aloha Bake House to Uluonalani Designs, set up shop in the school parking lot. There was an atmosphere of fun and excitement in the air as Kaiser alumnus, John Yamasato and Nick Sierra sang local favorite tunes on stage. Families from Hahaione Elementary, Koko Head Elementary, Niu Valley Middle and Kaiser High shopped and ate to their hearts' content.

Our mission was to help set up tables and chairs and 2 Lions Club tents for a sitting area in the parking lot. We also helped set up lighting in the tents using string lights. We set up the chairs and tables and lights from 3:30-4:00. Robotics club students helped with cleaning up the tables and chairs and lights at the end of the event. Proceeds of the event went to support the Kaiser Class of 2027 Project Grad.

CIS Patsy Takaesu, was escorted by Lion Roger Ede to view the new Lion's Club tent, which was purchased using funds from her generous donation to the club in honor of her husband, Lion Mino Takaesu.

Event organizer Stephanie Thomas was very appreciative of the Lion's Club volunteers.



MONTHLY BULLETIN

SPECIAL OLYMPICS: AUKAKE CLASSIC BOCCE TOURNAMENT

Submitted by: Alvin Hayashibara



This probably was one of our longest project ever. The seven Hawaii Kai Lions officiated the Bocce Ball Games at the Special Olympics tournament held at the Wai'au District Park. There were 28 courts setup where two volunteers, two teams of two, two coaches and a referee involved on each court. It took over one hour to explain how the game works for the volunteers. It was a very good experience volunteering this event as we learned the rule of Bocce Ball.

A total of 60 volunteers manned the 28 courts that were setup for this tournament. Also two soccer fields were also set up for their tournament. So at least 600 participants and family members were present, not including the Special Olympic committee members. This was such a wonderful event as you could see the participants happy faces and excited actions throughout the day. Two other clubs from our zone were present Koko Head and Manoa.



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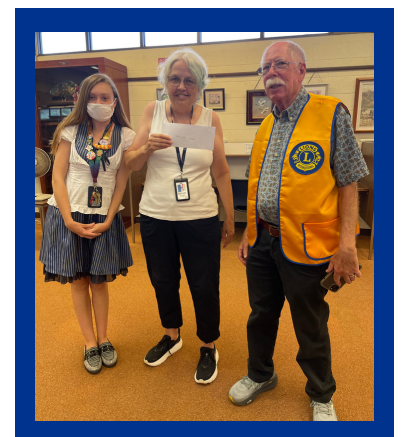
HAWAII KAI LIBRARY

Submitted by: Marja Leivo



On August 22, 2026 seven Lions and one CIS, of the Hawaii Kai Lions Club gathered at the Hawaii Kai Library to present the Librarian, Coleen Lashway, with a check for \$500.00. This money was received from our sister Club, the Nagoya Joto Lions Club, to be added to our annual donation to provide support for our Library.

Various delays including inclement weather caused this donation to be presented later than planned, and as a separate event from the Hawaii Kai Lions Club's donation which took place on April 30, 2026. Whereas the major renovations to the library have also been delayed, participants were able to see all the beautiful gifts previously received from Nagoya prominently displayed for the community to appreciate.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Alvin Hayashibara



A big mahalo to Lion Alvin Hayashibara for his hands-on dedication to environmental stewardship! On August 22, 2026, Alvin completed a solo run to collect and transport 78 printer cartridges, 6 broken laptops, and a monitor from Kaimuki High School and Wilson Elementary to the Aloha Overstock recycling center. When the recycling company stopped direct pickups, Alvin stepped up to personally deliver the items—keeping school workspaces clear and ensuring these electronics will be refilled and reused rather than ending up in our landfills. Thank you, Alvin, for keeping our community clean and green!

Lynn Liu



A huge congratulations to Lion Lynn Liu on receiving the prestigious Proud Lion Award! This well-deserved honor recognizes Lynn's outstanding commitment, active participation, and dedication to the core values of Lionism. Thank you, Lynn, for your enthusiasm, energy, and constant support of our club's service projects and community missions. We are so incredibly proud to have you in the Hawaii Kai Lions Club—keep up the amazing work!

Jason and Valynn Chong



New Members

Jason was born and raised on Oahu. He is a middle child. Graduated from Mililani High School, where he was part of the Leo Club and Marching Band. He is an Eagle Scout. Hobbies include cooking, baking, biking, reading, attempting at DIY Home Improvement, and enjoying a glass of whisky.

Valynn was born in Hilo and grew up on Oahu. She is the eldest of four. Graduated from Radford High School, where she played tennis and was part of various community service clubs. She is an avid tennis fan and reader. Hobbies include being a taster of Jason's cooking and baking, journaling, arts and crafts, learning dancing, trying new coffee / boba and food places, and watching Asian dramas.

They met in college at the University of Hawaii at Manoa through the Biology Club, where they did community service projects. They moved to Hawaii Kai in 2023. They joined the Lions Club because they value community, fellowship, and the opportunity to give back. It's meaningful to be part of an organization that brings people together to serve and make a difference.

A big aloha and warm welcome to our two new Lions—welcome to the family, and we can't wait to make a positive impact in our community together!

HONORABLE MENTIONS

District Governor Cedric Mitsui



DG Cedric visited our club with an inspiring message on staying "rooted in service," highlighting district goals to recruit 106 new members. DG Cedric highly praised our club's unique Member Directory and encouraged donations to LCIF for Storm Lala disaster relief, where emergency grants are currently being explored for affected clubs. To wrap up a memorable visit, DG coins were awarded to Alvin, Ken, Frances, Cynthia, Dr. Ede, Ells, David, Kendrick, and Yolisa, followed by a generous check exchange featuring a \$300 gift presented by Lion David to the District and a \$100 donation presented by DG Cedric back to our club.

Kaiser High School - Girls Soccer



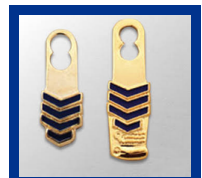
Demonstrating our ongoing commitment to youth and athletics in our community, Lion Ken Nishibun proudly presented a \$1,000 check from the Hawaii Kai Lions Club to Kaiser High School Girls Soccer Coach Noe Bio. This donation will help support the team's upcoming season, equipment needs, and player development. We wish the Lady Cougars the best of luck on the pitch this year!

D50 Convention Chair Kobey Arai



District 50 Convention Chair Kobey Arai visited to cordially invite our club to the upcoming District 50 Convention, celebrating a "Legacy of Service" from April 23–25, 2027, at the Kroc Center. This landmark convention honors the Mother Club of Lionism in Hawaii, the Lions Club of Honolulu, and will feature International President Mark Lyon as keynote speaker. Reach out to our club's convention chair, Lion Ells, to coordinate your registration.

Milestone Chevron Awards



Lion Ken Nishibun - 30 years
Lion David Osaki - 25 years
Lion Kendrick Chang- 10 years

FUTURE EVENTS

Date	Time	Event	Location	Attire	Project Chair
Thu, 9/3	7pm - 8pm	Membership Meeting	Lunalilo Home	Club Shirt	N/A
Mon, 9/14	8am - 11am	Vision & Hearing Screening	Waiialae ES	Work Shirt	Cynthia Chun
Tue, 9/15	11:30am - 2pm	Vision & Hearing Screening	Hahaione ES	Work Shirt	Cynthia Chun
Thu, 9/17	7pm - 8pm	Membership Meeting	Lunalilo Home	Club Shirt	N/A
Fri, 9/18	7:30am - 10am	Hearing Screening	Kamiloiki ES	Work Shirt	Cynthia Chun
Tue, 9/22	7:30am - 10am	Hearing Screening	Kahala ES	Work Shirt	Cynthia Chun
Sat, 9/26	8:30am - 11am	Adopt-A-Highway Clean Up	Koko Head ES	Work Shirt	Robyn Wong
Tue, 9/29	7:30am - 10am	Vision Screening	Kahala ES	Work Shirt	Cynthia Chun
Wed, 9/30	7:30am - 10am	Vision Screening	Kamiloiki ES	Work Shirt	Cynthia Chun

Birthdays

9/8, Tom Jones
9/8, Frances Lum
9/9, Eric Kvick
9/12, Appan Subramanian
9/20, David Osaki
9/20, Yolisa Ishibashi
9/29, Thomas Ono

Membership

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

Date of Induction

9/1/06, Helen Morita
9/20/12, Keith Kogachi
9/1/14, Sandra Gomes
9/5/24, Janis Bumgarner
9/4/25, Linda Belisle

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 4/17/1973
Intl. President, Mark Lyon
District Governor, Dr. Cedric Mitsui
1st VDG, Anthony "Tony" Tassillo
2nd VDG, David Iwana
Zone Chair, Jaci Yokogawa