

ROTARY CLUB OF HONOLULU
24 SEPTEMBER 2024
PACIFIC CLUB

Rotary Club of Honolulu **President Tom Coyne** called our meeting at the Pacific Club at noon, and he probably wishes he announced 'Fellowship Time' right off the bat. Members were diving into their delicious meals...going back for more steak, fish, and key lime pie...sharing fellowship with mouths full. The volume of 'The Pledge of Allegiance' and 'America the Beautiful' led by **Brian Dunkel** and **Kent Reinker**, was muffled somewhat by the chews in the room.

Rick Tabor noted that September 21st was remembered as World Peace Day in Hawaii and around the world. Hawaii was the first state in the nation to initiate the International Day of Peace, and Rick said it was not merely to mark the absence of conflict, but to activate engagement, dialogue, understanding and cooperation in the world. He invited Rotarians to help decorate the 2,000 graves at Punchbowl this coming Saturday, to honor our Nisei WW11

Veterans. That project begins at 8:30 a.m. And then on Monday, September 30th at 9a. help will be needed to remove the flags etc. from the graves. Other participation opportunities can be found in the club's Events Bulletin, and mahalo to all involved!

President Tom inducted two new Honolulu Rotarians, who will, no doubt, help us achieve our Service Above Self dreams. Standing ovations for **Dennis Lind** (spouse of our member since 2006, **Judy Lind**) and **Chris Johnson**. We all may be meeting regularly at Pacific Club in the future, if details are finalized. One issue will be parking, but what else is new? Let our leadership how you feel about our future meeting location. "Stay Tuned".

That's what journalists often say ... such as our speaker, **Jim McCoy**, whose former work at the Star Bulletin and KHON TV drew acclaim. Jim is now the Director of Communication for Pacific Historic Parks. Founded in 19979, Pacific Historic Parks is a nonprofit cooperating association that provides support to five National Parks and one State Park: Pearl Harbor National Memorial, Kalaupapa National Historic Park, War in the Pacific National Historical Park, American Memorial Park, Diamond Head State Monument, and Honouliuli Historic Site. Jim, who says he came to Hawaii in 1970 an Air Force brat, is now dedicated to supporting the historic memorials and parks through education and interpretive programs, research, preservation, and restoration.

There is also the ongoing issue of the 85 USS Arizona crew members among the thousands who died December 7th, who have yet to be identified and properly buried in graves now marked as unknown. Jim said the Pacific Historic Parks Operation has begun contacting next of kin to build DNA profiles to compare with the Arizona crew. It also is preparing for the December 7th Pearl Harbor Day commemoration ceremonies....now themed FORGING AHEAD. We can all learn more at Rotary's November 19th Paul Harris gathering at Pearl Harbor.

President Tom adjourned the meeting at 1 p.m., noting there will be no meeting October 1st.

Aloha, **Linda Coble**, Scribe