

ROTARY CLUB OF HONOLULU
ROYAL HAWAIIAN HOTEL MONARCH ROOM
DATE: DECEMBER 10, 2019
PRESIDING: PRESIDENT PAUL SAITO

The **Mele Rotarians**, led by **Jessica Lani Rich**, greeted the Rotary Club of Honolulu members and visitors with a concert of holiday songs prior to the meeting at the Royal Hawaiian Monarch Room. **President Paul Saito** called the meeting to order at noon and welcomed visitors and members. **Rick Tabor's** inspiration began with a listing of Christmas movie classics which usher in the spirit of Christmas, a spirit he said our club has year around. **Mike Herb** led the Pledge of Allegiance and **Kent Reinker** the singing of "God Bless America." **Craig Robinson** accompanied on the piano. **President Paul** announced **Diana Sakurai's** birthday and **Ananda Ferreira's** club anniversary. Announcements included **Rick Tabor** asking for volunteers to distribute gift bags at Mayor Wright Homes tomorrow, **Lee LaBrash** inviting more to volunteer for the Shriner's Hospital and Fernhurst caroling and Christmas craft event on December 19, and **James Pierce** who was thrilled with all of the toiletries already brought to distribute at the IHS dinner on December 26th. Toiletries may still be brought next week. **Diana Sakurai** announced story time with gingerbread cookies and wreaths at Mayor Wrights Homes and Kuhio Park Terrace, December 21. Volunteers are needed. And **Tom Coyne** asked for more volunteers for the Hawaii Beer Fest from 4 to 9 pm on Saturday, January 25 at the Hawaii Convention Center.

The program was a report on the RCOH Thailand service project (plus side trips to Laos and Vietnam) from October 26 through November 4 given by **PP Dave Shanahan**. **Dave** announced the project was planned by **Don Anderson** and turned over to him to run in Thailand. Via a power point presentation, **Dave** showed the location of this trip and prior RCOH service project trips in Southeast Asia. Using many interesting and lovely pictures, he described the activities and events of the trip. Prior to the work project, trippers took in the shops, cooking classes, an elephant preserve and city tours. At the Lamphun YMCA work project, they built, paneled and lacquered walls, moved chairs (multiple times), set in pavers, painted walls, extended an awning for shelter, and generally labored hard. They also brought some fun to the villagers including crafts, hula lessons, English lessons and just plain fun times. After the project's completion the group went to Hanoi where they stayed at the Metropole and visited the Hanoi Hilton. After a visit to Sapa, they boarded a bus to the Halong Bay where they enjoyed the beautiful, exotic scenery cruising on a luxurious boat. Their project trip concluded with volunteers going their separate ways.

Dave announced an upcoming project in the Philippines on Negros Island from March 14-21, 2020. Trip costs are largely underwritten. Individual cost will be \$300 plus personal airfare to Negros. A Bali Project for mid-August 2020 is in the works. Volunteers are needed to help organize this trip.

President Paul thanked **Dave** and presented him with a book entitled *I Am Peace: A Book of Mindfulness* for his signature. This book and those of the last several meetings will be

given to the Shriner's Hospital children on the caroling night. **Paul** announced the Christmas meeting next week and adjourned the meeting.

Nancy White, Scribe