

I love it when Valentine's Day lands on a Tuesday. Our members, family and guests celebrated ALOHA together throughout the lunch meeting, which was held at the Outrigger Canoe Club and via Zoom, February 14th, 2023.

President Lyla Berg's poi pounder gavel focused our attention to the podium, where **Kent Reinker** took the mic and appropriately led us in singing "When You're Smiling". **Julia Allen** put hand to Valentine heart, and we followed her in the Pledge of Allegiance. In an emotional inspiration, **Julia** recalled her late husband Michael Palcic would say...love is our gratitude for life. With her inspirational comments, I know everyone in the room, who has lost a loved one, was especially moved.

President Lyla introduced numerous guests, long-time-no-see members, and Debbie Bailey, an Arizona Rotarian, with whom she exchanged banners. **Brian Dunkel** guided us to the on-line **RCOH Lunch Club Feedback Survey 2023**, and we took some time to submit our responses to a series of questions concerning our membership experience. **Rick Tabor** sponsored our newest member, who was inducted by **President Lyla**. **Jeff Nash** is the Executive Director of Habilitat, which for over 50 years has been helping people overcome problems with substance abuse and homelessness. **Jeff** said he is looking forward to serving together with his like-minded fellow Rotarians.

Valentine's Day is a day of love...and the music that filled the rest of our meeting was spot on! **Kent Reinker** introduced local and mainland singer/musician, recording artist, and former Punahou buddy of Lyla's son... **Aix Kawakami**, who, with his guitar and great voice, filled the room and our hearts with songs of love. Between songs, **Aix** shared his relationships with fellow musicians Henry Kaponu (singing Sunflower), and James Taylor (giving a great rendition of How Sweet it is To Be Loved By You). Fools Rush In, I Can't Help Falling in Love with You...and more, kept me rocking and rollin' and missing my honey.

An emotional **President Lyla** concluded our meeting, saying "I love you. I. Hope you take that home and share it with others."

With Aloha,
PP PDG **Linda Coble**, Scribe