

ROTARY CLUB OF HONOLULU
ZOOM MEETING, 12 – 1 pm
DATE: APRIL 21, 2020
PRESIDING: PRESIDENT PAUL SAITO

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The inspiration, given by **Jim Reed**, who related that he had been fighting the bouts of insomnia that can sometimes accompany being cooped up and social isolating by singing the Bing Crosby favorite from "*White Christmas*". I fall asleep "Counting my Blessings." The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Glenda Anderson**. The singing of "God Bless America," was led by **Al Linton**. **Paul** called for a self introduction of visitors of which there were none until former member Paddy Griggs joined the meeting.

Birthdays this week include:

Bob Robinson on 24 Apr, **Sid Snyder** on 25 Apr, and **Hiroko Dewitz** on 26 Apr

Club Anniversaries:

This week's anniversaries are:

Takamasa Yamamura 8 Years (Sponsor **Hiroko Dewitz**)
Bill Brizee 14 Years (Sponsor fmr mbr Barbara Campbell)
Carol Sakata 31 (Sponsor fmr mbr Gordo Bradley)

Announcements: Paul called for a discussion of ideas on how the Club could be impactful in the community in the current crisis and opened the meeting up to discussion from the members.

Rick Tabor: for individuals offered to members that Meals on Wheels can use volunteers for delivery drivers: <https://www.lanakilapacific.org/volunteer/>

Al Linton: offered that his firm had been able to get 11 cases of N95 masks and in addition to offering them for the use of his employees he was looking for appropriate beneficiaries. Discussion from **Alice Tucker** queried as to whether Rotary could buy masks from Al and distribute. The question was left open and would be further assessed by **President Paul**.

Speaker Presentation: Tracy Lawson CEO Lawson and Associates

President Nominee Gwen Yamamoto Lau introduced Tracy as CEO of the largest safety support services firm in the State of Hawaii specializing in a full-scope of safety services including onsite safety staffing, safety training, safety litigation support, safety auditing services, and safety program management and development.

Tracy proceeded to describe the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on business practices. She offered that among the business core values of Efficiency, Profitability and Safety, Safety especially now needed to become THE core value. Safety Intelligence (SQ) needs to be a key element of business operations. Tracy used the metaphor from the movie *"Overcomer"* of "Speed up on the Hill-Don't Slow Down" as to how businesses should approach the challenges and opportunities presented by the COVID crisis. Some of the elements Tracy included of questions businesses must evaluate or consider were:

How do we deliver services differently?

How do we pivot to processes that fit?

How do we educate our workforce for operations in the new business environment?

How do we interact with customers/clients with contiguous safety?

How do we protect our brand, human and physical assets throughout?

Firms need to have agility to adjust rapidly when circumstances change. Tracy used the example of masks as a metaphor for the systems thinking that has to pervade business practice especially during this period. Important processes like: how masks are employed: how training is provided, how fitting is accomplished to ensure their efficacy, and the impact of their use on routine operations need to be thoroughly assessed, and policy devised, before any precipitous actions are taken regarding their use. Tracy closed her presentation with a description of the ways her firm has had to adjust to the current crisis which include a host of outreach initiatives such as offering virtual internships to support students transitioning into the workforce; online seminars with clients and others on COVID-19 Risk management issues. Her final commendation for those in business management was to: Be accessible, Provide Leadership, Protect Teams and Clients, and always stay current on rapidly changing information - leveraging trade associations partnerships to share good practices.

Pres. Paul thanked Tracy for her presentation and stated as a token of appreciation, and in recognition of her wonderful program for the Rotary Club of Honolulu today, that it was our custom to donate a book in our names to the library at Palolo Elementary School. Martha will select a book, and will note her name and the date on the bookplate.

Pres. Paul announced that next week's meeting will be another Zoom meeting. The Presentation and meeting details will be forwarded to members.
Meeting was adjourned at 1 pm.

Respectfully submitted, **David M Shanahan**, Scribe