

Rotary Minutes May 12, 2020

President Paul Saito called the May 12, 2020, Zoom meeting of the Rotary Club of Honolulu to order at 12 noon and welcomed all the members and visitors in attendance. **Steve Nikkola** gave an inspiration about reinventing ourselves after we come out the other side of the current crises. **Brian Dunkel** led the Pledge of Allegiance and **Al Linton** the singing of “America the Beautiful”. **President Saito** welcomed the visitors, which included Pam Chambers, Pili Valderama, Ross Capon, and new member applicants Peg Jackson, Evelyn Steifel, Laren Eustace, and Julia Allen. **Paul** announced the member birthdays of the week, which included:

Rich Smylie	May 15
Walt Flood	May 16
Sumner Howard	May 18

He announced the week’s club anniversaries for:

Craig Robinson	37 years
Donalyn Dela Cruz	1 year
John Cavanah	26 years
Jim Harrow	15 years

Announcements began with **Dave Shanahan** describing the decision made to postpone the Bali trip from the second week of August to the second week of January. **Rob Hale** gave an update on Centennial Park. A lot is happening at the moment. The changes required by the city for the electrical conduit are being done. Seven new palm trees are being planted, after which the concrete walkway can be poured. **Rick Towill** showed a picture of huge rocks that have been in storage from a Black Point project and that will form the park’s raised platform and some exterior rock detail. **Paul** announced that the masks **Al Linton** ordered for the club to give away have been donated by Kalu Glass Co., Inc.

President Paul introduced club member **Bob Sigall** as the speaker. **Bob** gave a “discussion” packed with interesting vignettes about the Royal Hawaiian and current and past members of our club. His talk was given in the form of a 25 question quiz. The first questions were about the Royal and Waikiki. Members chimed out the answers which **Bob** fleshed out with fascinating detail. The remaining questions highlighted past and present members that included, to name a few, General Herb Wolf, three generations of Clowards, Kalani Brady, **Mitch D’Olier**, **Kalo Soukop**, **John Henry Felix**, General Weyand, **Sarah Richards**, Whiskey Johnny Frisbee (**Haumea Ho’s** mom), **Lyla Berg**, **Kitty Yannone**, Francis Mossman, **Max Besenbruch**, Will Henderson, Frank Haines, **Don Anderson**, **Bob Robinson**, Jim Tollefson, and **Nancy Pace**. **Bob** was surprised that he couldn’t stump the group on a single question. Chat questions of **Bob** resulted in information about the berms underground at the park separating the ali’i and hoi polloi, that **Bob** was helping write the park signage about the history of Waikiki, why and to whom the Parker Ranch was given, a discussion of the arrival of the missionaries in 1820 and their successful efforts of learning and translating English into Hawaiian, the fact that in 1840 Hawaii was the most literate nation on earth, and the reason second generation missionaries got into business (being cut off by the mission board in 1850). All in all it was a most interesting meeting. **Bob** said anyone interested in his twice-weekly on-line “Rear View” newsletter should email him.

President Paul thanked **Bob** and announced a book in his honor will be given to Palolo Elementary School. Next week will also be a Zoom meeting, tentatively planned to be about senior living. **Lyla Berg** gave a mini-history about the origin of “Hawaii Aloha” and led the group in its singing. **Paul** adjourned the meeting at 1:03 PM.