

After giving members some extra time to mingle, **President Lyla Berg** called our August 2nd hybrid meeting of the Rotary Club of Honolulu to order at the Outrigger Canoe Club, the latest venue in our 'home' search so far. **Sam Haas** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, and **Lee LaBrash** led us in song, before **Bob Sumph** shared his Inspiration. Bob noted that joining Rotary has changed the trajectory of his life...and I could see many heads nod, as he shared how getting involved with new friends, at meaningful projects, and for personal enlightenment, will continue to make a positive difference in his life. Imagine Rotary!!!!

President Lyla invited us to discuss among our table mates, something we have learned that surprised us...and I think we all found it to be fun and liberating. When our attention was called back to the podium, there was something new on it. A poi pounder that **Past President Gwen Yamamoto Lau** gave to **Lyla**. It's something that pounds taro into poi...but so much more...it is a tool that helps people live a nourished life. Another symbol of Rotary's values that **Lyla** intends to keep on the podium throughout the year.

Bob Sumph announced the Rotarians who have graduated from Yellow Badge to White Badge status, and asked them to stand for our congratulations: **Julia Allen, Kathie Cooke, Karen Glasser, Maja Grajski, Rob Van Tassell, Mitch Weld and Nancy Youngren**. Probably no one in the room was prouder, than the Governor of Rotary District 5000 **Randy Hart**, who was up next as our speaker.

It is the responsibility of the District Governor to visit every Rotary Club in the District, and **DG Randy** noted this was his first visit to the Honolulu club since joining his Hilo Club in 1990. He emphasized the importance of diversity and inclusivity in Rotary, and said his focus is membership development...a 10% net gain, or 143 new members in our District, is his goal, in the wake of 55 members lost in one year. **DG Randy** said a club's membership goal is what the club President envisions, and he is hoping at least a 1 net increase in each. Fellowship is a key to retention, and he noticed our energy in the room...encouraged members to explore all of the Rotarian Action Groups making a difference around the world to expand personal participation...suggested we check the District 5000 Organizational Chart for available resources to serve our club...and he concluded his remarks with his year's DG theme...

TOGETHER WE CAN !

Before adjourning our uplifting meeting, **President Lyla** presented our **President-Elect Al Linton** with his official PE pin and quoted Dr. Seuss in proclaiming congratulations. Please check the **Tradewind** for other notices and upcoming announcements, and plan on zooming in for our next meeting August 9th.

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