



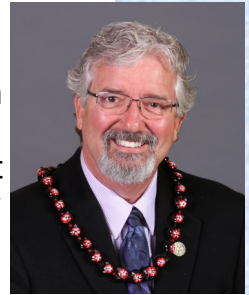
Kona Nightingale

The Newsletter for Rotary Club of Kona Mauka
Chartered in 1967

June 2015

President's Message

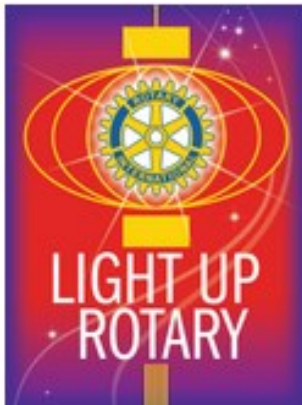
Larry Kniffin



When I attended PETS (President Elect Training Seminar) last March I was told that this would be both my most trying year and my most rewarding year. Both counts were right. As my year as your president comes to a close I would like to thank each and every member for a wonderful year. You should be proud of all the accomplishments you have attained, giving back to the community that we all love, through scholarships, community events and services, and helpful presence that we display in everything we do.

Our club has grown and is now a vibrant medium sized club. We proved that in winning 1st Place in Membership growth. Our fundraiser this year will provide scholarships to future leaders in the amount of \$48,000, an outstanding job by both Sandee and Tammy who both co-chaired the event.

I'm sure you will give Gary the same support and guidance that you have afforded me in the coming year. It has truly been an honor serving with all of you.



Speakers

Door Prize

June 2

Georgianna DeCosta
Hawaii Meth Project
Richard Harrison

June 9

Bev Fraser
Friends of the Children
Dave Hiranaka

June 16

Dale Ross
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Donna Hiranaka

June 23

Wendi Wagner
Kona Hospital Trauma Care
Awa Huihui-Grafte

June 30

Chantal Chung
Water Project
Bill Jones

Rotary's 4 Way Test Of the Things We *Think, Say and Do*

- ☉ *Is it the TRUTH?*
- ☉ *Is it FAIR to all concerned?*
- ☉ *Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?*
- ☉ *Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?*

(AND . . . Is it Fun??)

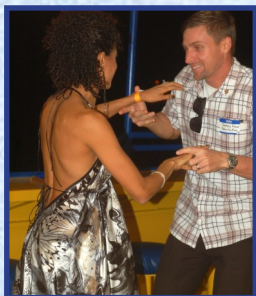
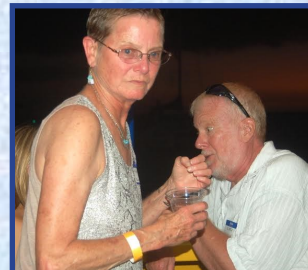
Your **Life** is your
MESSAGE
TO THE **WORLD.**
Make sure it's
INSPIRING.



Installation Dinner

Changing of the Guard with Fun and Fellowship
aboard Blue Sea Cruises

Page 2



ROTARY CLUB OF KONA MAUKA AWARDS 15 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Rotary Club of Kona Mauka recently awarded \$30,000 to West Hawai'i high school seniors at Konawaena and Honoka'a high schools and to second year college students at West Hawai'i Community College and other campuses.

Among these awards was the very first \$10,000 scholarship from the Kavanagh Educational Fund and the annual Hawai'i Rotary Youth Foundation \$5,000 scholarship. These two awards were received by Arielle Tottten and Chloe Delaney, respectively, both students at Konawaena High School.

Scholarship Recipients at Konawaena High School are (from left to right): Arielle Tottten, Tianna Morimoto, Chloe Delaney, Carly Spilker, Kililani Kunitomo, Skye Suzuki, Nikki Kunitomo, Kelsey Katayama, Shlya Victor, Keven Medeiros, and Neymai Lawrence-Yamagato.



Ground Golf Tournament

Kona Mauka and Mokulele Airlines co-sponsored the annual Seniors Spring Ground Golf Tournament.



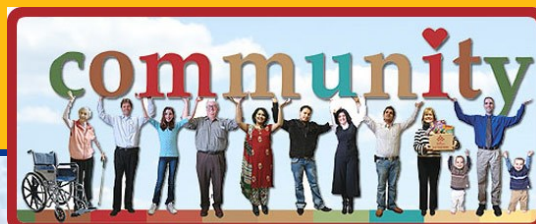
Representative from Kona Mauka Rotary and Mokulele Airlines with the winning team



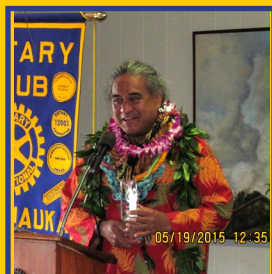
REFLECTIONS AS WE CLOSE OUT OUR 2014-15 ROTARY YEAR. . .

By working together with open hearts and loads of enthusiasm we accomplished some wonderful things this year

- Donated \$1,000 to the Shelter Box Project to help provide shelter to those affected by the disastrous earthquake in Nepal
- Kona Mauka participated in a Global Grant supporting a water project in Kosovo.
- Helped to reforest the West Hawaii Veterans Cemetery hillside by planting native plants at on *Rotarians at Work Day*.
- Presented scholarships totaling \$30,000
- Recognized Kumu Keala Ching with the *Vocational Award of Excellence* and donated \$1,000 in his name to the Na Wai Iwi Ola Foundation.
- In the spirit of giving we adopted a family for the holidays. Our club acted as a Secret Santa in order to provide toys, clothes and needed supplies for the children and gift cards for food for the family.
- Helped provide lunch at the Memorial Day ceremony at WH Veterans Cemetery
- Helped provided wreaths and took part in the "Wreaths Across America" ceremony at WH Veterans Cemetery
- Provided volunteer parking attendants for the Halloween Fundraiser at the Kona Pacific Charter School
- Helped support the Interact club at Konawaena High School
- Raised over \$55,000 at our annual Valentines Wine Tasting fundraiser, which will provide scholarships to our college bound seniors and support various community projects
- Participated in the Konawaena High School Career Night
- In partnership with Aloha United Way and KAPA Radio we collected school supplies for the keiki
- Sponsored students for the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) camp at Kilauea Military Camp
- Hosted a *Family of Rotary Beach Day* at Pu'u honua O Honaunau
- To further create a sense of community and camaraderie within the club, we had an *Evening at the Theatre* event and enjoyed a hilariously entertaining presentation of 'Jekyll and Hyde'
- Volunteered as Parade Marshals at the **4th of July** and **Christmas Parades**
- Participated with area Rotary clubs in the *Menhune Food Drive* in which we raised needed funds and food donations for the Food Basket—an organization that provides food for our community's needy
- Donated \$500.00 to the County's Elderly Recreation Program for the annual Ground Golf Tournament in October
- Provided an additional Seniors Ground Golf Tournament in the spring
- Marched in the Kamehameha Day Parade wearing our Rotary t-shirts while passing out informational packets to parade spectators
- Conducted vision screening to third graders in our community
- Donated dictionaries to each of the third grade students in our district
- Volunteered at the **Ironman Triathlon** aid stations



Award of Professional Excellence Luncheon: Kumu Keala Ching



Kumu Keala Ching

Rotary Club of Kona Mauka congratulates this year's Vocational Award of Professional Excellence recipient, Kumu Keala Ching. The club was proud to recognize Kumu Keala's outstanding personal and professional achievements, high ethical standards, passion and commitment to our community and his vocation, and his support of the Rotary concept of Service Above Self.



Kumu expressed his thank you with a hula



Kumu Keala's mother shared some stories about Keala

Kumu Keala Ching is a Hawaiian cultural educator, composer, song writer, and spiritual advisor to many Hawaiian organizations. Kumu Keala lives and breathes aloha into his Hawaiian heritage with his strong presence and great heart.

Kumu Keala is fluent in the Hawaiian language, which he uses as the foundation for teaching all of his students. He is Kumu Hula for Ka Pa Hula Na Wai Iwi Ola. As a composer of chants and mele, he travels the world to share hula. Kumu Keala is Co-founder and Executive Director of Na Wai Iwi Ola (NWIO) Foundation. He is also Kumu Hula and cultural advisor to Halau Na Wai Ola in Sunnyvale, California, - Kumu Hula Ka'ai Isa-Kahaku; Halau Na Wai Pana o Keala - Kumu Yukari Uchio; Halau Na Wai Ola o Keala - Kumu Kazumi Chiwata both in Japan; and Halau Na Wai'Ohia - Kumu Noelle Delaquis in Zurich, Switzerland.



Kumu presented \$1,000 in his name to Na Wai Iwi Ola Foundation



Rotarian Awa nominated Kumu Keala for the award

Kona Mauka Rotary donated \$1,000 in Kumu's name to Nā Wai Iwi Ola (NWIO) Foundation, which was founded to perpetuate the Hawaiian culture and practices



Music greeted guests as they arrived



through hula protocol and ceremonies, the use and study of the Hawaiian language and by embracing the stories of our kūpuna past, present and future.



Many guests joined Kona Mauka Rotary in honoring Kumu Keala Ching



"Fellowship is wonderful; it illuminates life's pathway, spreads good cheer, and is worth high price."

-Founder, Paul Harris

June is Rotary Fellowship Month

Fellowship brings some important ideas to mind, including sharing, connection, and community. Rotary is an amalgam of individual communities — the club, the district, the region, and the world — each offering a different type of fellowship.

Rotary Fellowships, which are open to Rotarians and Rotarian spouses, help foster international understanding and can contribute significantly to individual communities. Because fellowships must have a member base from at least three countries, they are rooted in local environments, but at the same time link Rotarians with similar interests all over the world.

For example, members of the International Fellowship of Rotarian Scuba Divers participate in group dives once or twice a year at different spots around the globe. While they are in these exotic places, they contribute to a service project carried out by a local Rotary club. At the D5000 District Conference several Rotarians joined the Wine Appreciation Fellowship.

Each fellowship is officially recognized by the RI Board of Directors but operates independently of Rotary International, with its own rules, dues, requirements, and administrative structure.



Rotary District Conference Hilton Waikoloa



Larry accepting award for Membership Growth. Kona Mauka continues to thrive and make an impact in our community



Hawaii West Leadership Team

ROTARY: THE ORIGINAL SOCIAL NETWORK

GET CONNECTED!

Make your Rotary experience truly international with these networking opportunities.



EXCHANGE IDEAS: www.rotary.org/myrotary

District Governor's May Message

Laura Steelquist

When I asked each President to pick out one highlight from his/her year to share at the District Conference, I knew how difficult it would be – because no club has done only ONE significant project. And the stories that were shared amazed the listeners – and me!

I decided it was only fair for me to ask myself to do the same thing – pick the one defining thing I will take with me from my year as District Governor. The answer? It's the people! I have been truly blessed this year to have one of the best leadership teams ever – Presidents and Assistant Governors and District Leaders - men and women who are always willing to say yes – even when it's a request I know they're not crazy about – or one that I know they want to gently let me know they think is truly "crazy!"

All of the Rotarians of District 5000 have risen above my expectations to help fulfill my dreams for the year. We've impacted homelessness – and I know we will continue this battle until the issue is solved. We've increased our membership – and have a huge momentum established to continue increasing our membership until we're far beyond that 2,000 number from our not too distant past! We'll continue to make a difference in our communities – locally and globally – as only Rotarians can. We'll continue to

Light Up Rotary!

And we'll truly discover that we can *Be A Gift to the World*.
To the best year of our lives – so far!



Our Leadership Team



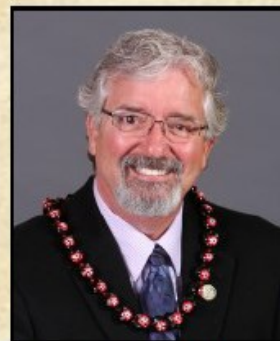
Rotary International
President
Gary C.K. Huang



District 5000
District Governor
Laura Steelquist



D5000 Hawaii West
Assistant Governor
Donna Hiranaka



Rotary Club of Kona
Mauka President
Larry Kniffin



Rotary International President's Message

Gary CK Huang



When I began this Rotary year as your president, I wanted us, above all, to Light Up Rotary. I wanted us to share with the world how many wonderful friendships and experiences we have found in Rotary, and how Rotary has transformed and enriched our lives. I knew that by telling others about Rotary, we would increase membership, build stronger clubs, and improve our ability to help people in need.

As we end this 2014-15 Rotary year, I am honored by your response and will always be grateful for how you have risen to this challenge. You have answered my call to Light Up Rotary by holding many successful Rotary Day celebrations in your communities; you have outdone yourselves in your contributions to our Rotary Foundation; and you have moved all of Rotary forward with new members and new clubs.

When I chose my theme for my year as president, I was inspired by the words of Confucius, who said, "It is better to light a single candle than to sit and curse the darkness."

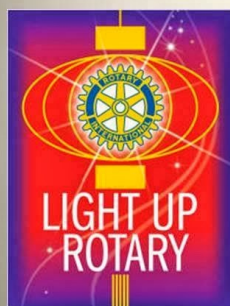
This year, more than 1.2 million Rotarians, along with Interactors, Rotaractors, Rotary Youth Exchange participants, and Rotary Peace Fellows, have lit their own candles in tens of thousands of communities. Together, the lights we have kindled have created a great light that shines for all the world to see.

I thank all of you for the opportunity to serve as your president this year, and for the hard work and dedication of our volunteer leadership and our staff members. I came to them with high expectations – and they delivered.

I also am grateful for the many friends I have made during this Rotary year, and for the wonderful visits I've had to so many places. I will always remember, with great fondness, riding on the Rotary float in the Rose Parade, watching children enjoy the Japanese drummers at the Rotary Day open house at RI headquarters in

Evanston, and bicycling through the night in Colombo during the Ride to Light Up Rotary event, celebrating a polio-free Sri Lanka.

I have seen a new energy in Rotary this year, and felt a new excitement. We've seen more and more women and young people join Rotary as well – including my wife, Corinna, and our three children. I hope that in the year to come, you will continue your wonderful work to Light Up Rotary – and to help it Be a Gift to the World.



2014-15
RI THEME
LIGHT UP ROTARY

**This is my challenge to you. How you Light Up Rotary, how you light your own candle, is up to you "Light up Rotary."
- RI President 2014-15 Gary Huang**

What's Happening in Rotary This Month?

June

Rotary Fellowship Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Kari Pietarila Birthday Georgianna DeCosta Hawaii Meth Project	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Bev Fraser Friends of the Children	10	11	12	13
14	15 Charles Robertson birthday	16 Dale Ross Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Dan Montgomery birthday	17	18	19 Installation Dinner Eric Curtis birthday	20
21	22	23 Wendi Wagner Kona Hospital Trauma Center	24	25 Donna Hiranaka birthday	26	27
28	29	30 Chantal Chung Water Project	Trudy Teshima- Gramlich birthday			

Rotary Club of Kona Mauka 2014-2015

President:	Larry Kniffin	Community Service:	Sharon Taylor
Treasurer:	Eric Curtis		Awa HuiHui-Grafte
Secretary:	Gary Rovelstad	Membership & Retention:	Dave Hiranaka
Vocational:	Donna Hiranaka		Laura Kniffin
Programs:	Ken Obenski	International Service:	Bill Cliff
Club Service:	Laura Kniffin	Foundation:	Bill Cliff
Newsletter:	Donna Hiranaka	Sergeant At Arms:	Ken Obenski
Interact:	Richard Harrison	President Elect:	Gary Rovelstad
Scholarships:	Gary Rovelstad	Past President:	Don Taylor