



Kona Nightingale

The Newsletter for Rotary Club of Kona Mauka
Chartered in 1967

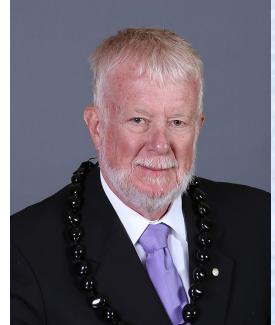


May 2016

President's Message

Gary Rovelstad

Where Was the Flag, Anyway?



I'll get back to that question in a sentence or two. Before I do, I would like to thank everyone again who helped plant some 100+ trees along the Ane Keohokalole Highway last month. I think as a group we likely bought all of the Advil Long's had in stock. Even so, it was a great effort from all of the West Hawai'i clubs and I thank you for it. I also want to thank Donna and Ken for their work honoring Jerry Tracy with our 2016 Vocational Service Award at our April 26th meeting. As long as I'm thanking folks, I would like to add another thank you to your board of directors who, with the fine help of Laura's preparation and Larry's cooking, debated for some two and one-half hours at their last meeting over matters important to our club.

The first of these matters was not so much a debate as it was gathering information from Gabriella, whom we had invited to the meeting, regarding her recommendations to us and the club about how we can best continue to honor Bill Cliff's memory. Listening to her reinforced our understanding of Bill's ongoing desire to bring the opportunity of education to as many as possible. It will take us some time and planning, but our efforts will move towards this goal. Then the board discussed, amended, and discussed again our new by-laws before accepting them as our club's new set of rules. The board also heard reminders about Sharon's June 24th installation dinner, our participation in June 11's King Kamehameha Parade, and Don's Jubilee Committee's ongoing work to identify those projects which will help us commemorate our 50th year as a Rotary Club. All of these announcements led Dan Montgomery to ask us to establish a more formal procedure to keep everyone, including the public, informed about our club's activities so they don't come as a surprise to us or the rest of our community. Finally, the board discussed our membership headcount.

Most of you know that Rotary International assesses our club a semi-annual fee based on our headcount on a specific date, in this case June 30th. So, please don't be surprised if you get a call as we prepare to submit our membership report.

What happened to the flag, then, on the 26th? There's a story told about "Bear" Bryant, the former football coach at Alabama, that speaks to his attention to detail. If a bald eagle, the story goes, swooped down onto the field and stole the football, coach Bryant would have a play ready to defend against the eagle. Well, I could take a lesson from that story. The flag was in the closet. Thanks for going along.

Speakers

Door Prize

May 3

Chelsea LaFrance &
Zahera Knowles
West Hawaii Mediation
Chris Leinenweber

May 10

Lt Pat Kawai
Sherriff Department
Mary Metteer

May 17

Stephanie Nagata
Office of Mauna Kea Management
Dan Montgomery

May 24

Karen Rose
VASH
Kent Nakamaru

May 31

Bill Chen
Kona Literacy Center
Ken Obenski

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??)



County Civil Defense official shared updates on the Dengue outbreak



Chelsea LaFrance Case Manager and Zahera Knowles Executive Director of West Hawaii Mediation



Judge Margaret Masunaga shared how her daughter Colette's life was changed by the experiences she had as a Rotary Youth Exchange student in Thailand.

An Update on Mehrangez, student from Tajikistan



Many of us were riveted by Mehrangez' story when she came to speak to our club. She originally came to Konawaena as an Exchange Student, and was able to avoid an arranged marriage and return to the US to continue her post graduate studies through the fundraising efforts of her host family.

Mehrangez turned 20 at the end of April. She has been enrolled at Palamanui Community College in Kona since January and the semester will end in mid May. She has found her classes challenging, but also fun. It is a good thing she has a strong academic background in Tajik and Russian. This has allowed her English to make steady progress and she tested out of any Math prerequisites. She was astounded that the teachers sought out HER opinion, especially since in her country, girls were not allowed to speak in class. And now for the even bigger news: Mehrangez was accepted to several 4-year colleges and has selected Milikin University in Decatur, Illinois. She was awarded a generous merit based scholarship for international students and then received a grant from a private source who heard about her amazing odyssey. Thus, her tuition is covered for the next four years.



Visiting Rotarian and California Rice Farmer David Dumars exchanged a bag of rice with President Gary. David is a member of Greg Stille's former club in California

A FUN OPPORTUNITY!

100 Years and Counting . . .

Kona Mauka Rotary Club will be participating in the Kamehameha Day Parade with a Centennial float! What a fun way to show our community who we are as we proudly march in this beautiful parade.

Did you know? The King Kamehameha Day Floral Parade is celebrating its 100 anniversary as Rotary is celebrating 100 years of serving Hawaii. This special parade will honor each of the Hawaiian Islands with both an island float and a pā'ū unit representing each of the eight Hawaiian Islands.

Come be a part of history! Help is needed to build the Rotary float and march in the parade on Saturday, June 11, 2016. Contact Elly at ellen.johnson77@gmail.com



100 Trees for 100 Years:

HAWAII WEST ROTARY CENTENNIAL PROJECT



West Hawaii Rotary worked with PATH (Peoples Advocacy of Trails Hawaii) and adopted the first mile of the 16.7 mile walking/biking trail. We planted 100 trees & will install benches in June. The trees will provide shade, beauty, flowers for lei and fruit for the community.



The planting and blessing of a Monkeypod tree in honor of Bill Cliff.

A plaque will be installed in June

Vocational Award of Professional Excellence

Rotary Club of Kona Mauka congratulates this year's Vocational Award of Professional Excellence recipient, Jerry Tracy. The club was proud to recognize Jerry'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*.

Kona Mauka Rotary donated \$1,000 to a non-profit group of Jerry's choice, which he then presented to APAC.

Jerry is the Artistic Director of Aloha Performing Arts Company (APAC). In the words of Rotarian Ken Obenski, "Jerry Tracy has worked tirelessly for 22 years as artistic director of Aloha Performing Arts Company bringing live theater to our community ranging from musicals, to productions with only children as cast members, to cutting edge drama. He has introduced hundreds, maybe thousands of teens, children and even adults to the magic of theater. Jerry has mentored them often after hours, weekends & holidays and brought out hidden talent that has enriched not only their lives, but the lives of their families and our vast and varied community audience. His unique updated portrayals of Mark Twain may be better than the original. He seems to work 25 hours a day, directing (brilliantly), teaching and organizing. When necessary he also sweeps out the place, answers letters and the phone. Jerry is instrumental in bringing Broadway class entertainment to small town Kona."

Kona Mauka Rotary is thankful for the opportunity to recognize those in our community who truly make a difference.



Jerry and his invited guests



APAC Board Chair Annabelle Treacy accepting \$1,000 donation



Nominator Ken Obenski



Jerry receiving plaque from Donna



Many members and guests came to be a part of the recognition ceremony



The Edge and his father, Garvin Evans, on the cover of May issue of the Rotarian magazine

IT'S ALL IN THE FAMILY

Did you know? The father of The Edge, legendary guitarist for U2, is a founding member of Dublin North Rotary Club? The musical band U2 has long had a reputation for philanthropy and activism. This month's issue of the Rotarian explores the similarities between guitarist The Edge (born David Evans) and his father, long-time Rotarian.

The Edge says, "I was aware of Rotary, but I was quite ignorant about what was going on. I knew my dad wore this funny pin on his lapel from time to time. You pick up tidbits as you grow up, and I understood as time went on that it was mostly about charitable activities and outreach in the community and kind of general social enterprise-type activities.

My own world of involvement with philanthropy and activism started through the band. Having achieved a certain level of success, we had this platform and opportunity to do things. It was a very pleasant shock to see how my world and my dad's world had come full circle when I discovered that the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which our band has been associated with for a while, had partnered with Rotary to take on polio. I suddenly got a full sense of what Rotary was about. I went to a dinner with my dad (honoring his 40th year in Rotary) and saw the level of commitment and the immense value of Rotary that evening. That's when I finally got it.

Garvin Evans says, "Never stand in the way of your children's dreams-they might just come true."

Check out the full story in this month's Rotarian. Garvin lost his battle with cancer shortly after this issue came out. What a legacy he left behind.

Wisdom
is knowing the right path to take...

Integrity
is taking it.

Start with Rotary
and good things happen.



Rotary. Humanity in motion.

rotary.org



MAY IS YOUTH SERVICES MONTH

April is Youth Services Month in Rotary. Kona Mauka has a long history of supporting youth in our community. Rotary values youth and there are many ways that you can become involved with youth in our club.

Scholarships: Over the years the club has established several scholarships as a way to help young adults achieve their academic goals.

HRYF: In Hawaii we also have the Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation scholarship program. Kona Mauka interviews high school applicants and then one final applicant receives a \$5,000 scholarship from each club. Chosen students go on to a second round of interviews to vie for the \$10,000 scholarship, one outstanding student from each district will receive a \$10,000 scholarship.

Youth Exchange: This is a program in which a high school student lives with a host family in another country for up to a year and attends school there. Our club can send or receive a student and Kona Mauka will be participating in a Youth Exchange this next year. Accepting a Youth Exchange student into our club, community and household can be a very rewarding experience. It's an opportunity for us, our family and fellow Rotarians to learn about a different culture and help a young person understand our culture. The goal of Rotary Youth Exchange is to promote the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace at the person to person level. We plan to participate with an exchange this next year.

Each fall we provide a vision screening for all 3rd grade students in our mauka community.

Third grade students also receive a dictionary each year from our club. It's fun for both the students and the Rotarians as they explore the many functions of dictionary together.

RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards): Programs for RYLA vary. On the Big Island, RYLA takes place during a week-end in the spring each year. Youth from all over our island are chosen for their leadership potential to attend the camp to attend the event held at Kilauea Military Camp. Island Rotary clubs take turns organizing this event.

Grants: Our club has sponsored several grants that benefit the youth in South Africa. Computer labs have been funded at three schools which help provide graduates with the skills and knowledge to compete for employment in the modern day South Africa. Computer literacy is essential for many jobs. Think about it, without these labs they would have no access to computers. Bill Cliff had great skill at putting together these grants and garnering financial support from partner Rotary clubs across the globe. Through his relationship with Grahamstown Rotarian Bill Mills we were able to positively effect students at Greahme College (K-12), PJ Olivier High School (grades K-12), and Victoria Girls Primary School.

Interact Club. This is a Rotary Club for youth 12-18 and usually revolves around a high school. This year Sharon would like to rejuvenate our Interact club at Konawaena. One of the first steps is finding a teacher who is interested in sponsoring the group.

In summary, Rotary values youth and there are many ways that you can become involved with youth in our club.

Rotary International President's Message

K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran

May 2016

Some years ago, in the Kano plains of Kenya, a well-meaning development agency took on the task of improving water availability to a rural community. Committees were formed, meetings were held, and the local people were consulted. The main need the community identified was improved delivery of water for irrigation and livestock. A plan to meet this need was created, and the work was soon begun, exactly as the community representatives had requested.



Yet once construction began, it was met by immediate protest from groups of community women, who came to the site and physically blocked workers from building diversion channels. Upon further investigation, the agency realized that the water it was diverting for farming came from the only source, for dozens of families, of water for cooking, drinking, and washing. The entire project had to be scrapped.

Why? Because it had never occurred to a single member of the all-male team in charge to consult the local women. At every stage, it was assumed that the men knew the needs, spoke for the community, and were able to represent it. Clearly, this was far from the case. The women knew the needs of the community, and its resources, far better – but their opinion was never sought.

We have had women in Rotary for only the last quarter of our history, and it is no coincidence that those years have been by far our most productive. In 1995, only 1 in 20 Rotarians were women; today, that number has risen to 1 in 5. It is progress, but it is not enough. It is only common sense that if we want to represent our communities, we must reflect our communities, and if we want to serve our communities fully, we must be sure that our communities are fully represented in Rotary.

Rotary's policy on gender equality is absolutely clear. Yet nearly one-fifth of our clubs still refuse to admit women, usually by claiming that they simply cannot find women who are qualified for membership. I would say that any Rotarian who makes this argument, or believes it, himself lacks the two most basic qualifications for Rotary membership: honesty and good sense.

A club that shuts out women shuts out much more than half the talent, half the ability, and half the connections it should have. It closes out the perspectives that are essential to serving families and communities effectively. It damages not only its own service but our entire organization, by reinforcing the stereotypes that limit us the most. It leads our partners to take us less seriously, and it makes all of Rotary less attractive to potential members, especially the young people who are so crucial to our future.

To tolerate discrimination against women is to doom our organization to irrelevance. We cannot pretend that we still live in Paul Harris' time, nor would he ever want us to. For, as he said, "The story of Rotary will have to be written again and again." Let us see to it that the story we write in Rotary is one of which he would be proud.

District Governor's May Message

Del Green

Fellow Rotarians

In 2010, New Generations Service became Rotary's fifth Avenue of Service recognizing the importance of the youngest generation in the family of Rotary: Interact, Rotaract, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), and Rotary Youth Exchange, and other service-minded youth and young adults involved in Rotary club and district activities.



While Rotarians have long been committed to serving the youth in their communities, we are reminded that we should also be committed to involving them in our vocational, community and international service projects and providing programs and resources that support this effort. Rotarians can serve as role models and help foster a Service Above Self mindset in the minds of those youth we work with in our various activities.

In 1996, then RI President Luis Vicente Giay coined the term New Generations at the Calgary RI Convention when he said "The New Generations are our investment in the future. Let us begin to build that future today." New Generations is now a standard part a club's constitution encouraging Rotarians to help youth develop leadership skills through involvement in service activities and foster world peace and understanding through exchange programs.

Have you participated in RYLA? Interact? Rotaract? Does your club have a youth-focused service project? Summer is soon upon us and would be a perfect time to make the youth of our community and the world your club's focus. "Be A Gift" to them.

Yours in Rotary,
Del and Diana

Our Leadership Team



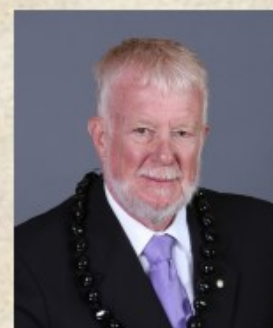
Rotary International
President
K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran



District 5000
District Governor
Del Green



D5000 Hawaii West
Assistant Governor
Donna Hiranaka



Rotary Club of Kona
Mauka President
Gary Rovelstad

Planning Ahead

MOTOWN

Greatest HITS

featuring 2 Broadway stars from the hit

MOTOWN: THE MUSICAL

You will be up dancing and singing before the night is over!



May 13 and 14.

Two nights only.



Jarrian Muse

May 13, Friday
 Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel Ballroom
 Tickets \$60. At the door ONLY.
 Doors open 6pm. No host cocktails. Concert 7pm.

Martina Sykes

May 14, Saturday
 Sheraton 7:30. No host cocktails 7:00 PM. Private concert, \$85.
 Reservations: Kona Hospital Foundation
 Tel: 808 322 4587 Web: khfhawaii.org.

Proceeds benefit:
 Kona Hospital Foundation,
 Hilo Medical Center Foundation,
 Family Support Hawaii and Hawaii Island Humane Society




[Play video](#)

Motown Music

*For dinner reservations or special room rates,
 call Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel at 808.880.1111*


Event co-chairs: Dr. Jack Bunnell, Kona Hospital Foundation Board Chairman
 and Frank Meyer, Hōkū Concert Series

2016 District 5000 Conference at the beautiful Halekulani
 June 10-12, 2016

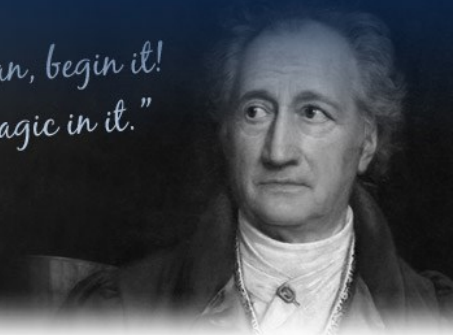


CELEBRATING **100** YEARS OF SERVICE WITH ALOHA

Rotary
 District 5000



*"Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it!
 Boldness has genius, power and magic in it."
 Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*



What's Happening in Rotary This Month?

May

Youth Service Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Richard & Karen's anniversary	2	3 Chelsea LaFrance Zahera Knowles West Hawaii Mediation	4 Don Taylor Birthday	5	6	7
8 	9	10 Lt Pat Kawai Sheriff Dept	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 Stephanie Nagata, Mauna Kea Management	18 Sharon Taylor Birthday	19	20 Mary Kay Rovelstad Birthday	21 Elly joined Mauka Rotary 2014
22	23 Greg & Susy anniversary	24 Karen Rose VASH	25 Jerry & Dana anniversary	26	27	28
29	30 	31 Bill Chen Kona Literacy Council				

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

June 11: Kamehameha Day Parade - Centennial Float with Kona Mauka Rotary

June 11, 12, 13: District Conference @ Halekulani

June 24 (Friday): Sharon's Installation Dinner @ Elks Lodge

July 4: Kona Mauka Rotary will be Safety Marshalls at the parade

August 17 (Wed): Multi-Club Social for DG Clint Schroeder @ Linda Jane Kelly's

Rotary Club of Kona Mauka 2015-2016

President:	Gary Rovelstad	Membership & Retention:	Dave Hiranaka
Treasurer:	Eric Curtis		Carol Gigliotti
Secretary:	Sharon Taylor	Community Service:	Sharon Taylor
Vocational:	Donna Hiranaka		Awa HuiHui-Graffe
Club Service:	Laura Kniffin		Bob Shaible
	Leonora Prince	RI Foundation:	Bill Cliff
Programs:	Ken Obenski		Rhonda Kavanagh
Newsletter:	Donna Hiranaka	International Service:	Bill Cliff
Interact:	Tammy Shafer-Walker	Past President:	Larry Kniffin
Youth Services:	Chris Leinenweber	Jubilee Committee Chair:	Don Taylor
Public Relations:	Rhonda Kavanagh	President Elect:	Sharon Taylor
Scholarships:	Chris Leinenweber	KMR Foundation President:	Don Taylor
Sergeant At Arms:	Ken Obenski	Events Chair:	Dave Hiranaka / Don Taylor