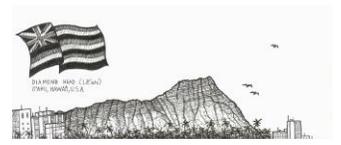


CENTENNIAL PARK

By Kirk N. Hovious

"Over 100 Years in the making"



The Waikiki of today is worlds away from the wetlands, mudflats, fishponds and full cover bathing suits of 1916. A walk amongst the modern concrete towers of this tourist mecca reveals little in the way of culture or history and even less in "green space". To a small degree, this will soon change!

Thanks to the efforts of the Rotary Club of Honolulu, Rotarians throughout the State of Hawaii and the City and County of Honolulu, the only remaining patch of undeveloped land in central Waikiki will soon be transformed from a barren, debris-strewn, gravel lot into an oasis of greenery, education, culture and family activity! This is the story and vision of "Centennial Park" ...

Over 100 years have passed since a happenstance encounter between two Hawaii businessmen sailing aboard the luxury liner "Lurline" from San Francisco to Honolulu. The conversation about a new, community-service organization called "Rotary" enticed both men and ultimately led to the establishment of Hawaii's first Rotary Club in July 1915.

Today, this club still exists as the **Rotary Club of Honolulu**.

Since its founding, an additional 49 clubs have been organized and thrive throughout the State. The contributions of these clubs to Hawaii's children, families and communities are both numerous and impactful. No doubt, our State is a far better place because of Rotary.

THE "VISION"

Centennial Park Features:

- ❖ Historic "Roto-Stone" Markers
- ❖ Rotarian-Planted Gardens
- ❖ Elevated "Paul Harris" Performance Lawn
- ❖ Rolling "Grand Lawn"
- ❖ Regal Wrought Iron/Stone Wall Fencing
- ❖ Natural Stone Seating
- ❖ Meandering Natural Stone Walkways
- ❖ Expansive Shade Trees



THE VIEW

Upon their arrival, visitors to Centennial Park will note the regal, wrought iron/stone wall fence adorning the park perimeter.

Much like the grounds of Iolani Palace, Centennial Park will be encompassed by a protective, yet picturesque, fencing reminiscent of the late 1800's. This stylish accent will provide security in the evenings and view ability during the day.



THE HISTORY



Once inside, visitors will stroll the natural stone walkways stopping to read from each of ten (10) engraved "ROTO-STONES" spaced amongst the Rotarian-planted gardens.

Each large stone is dedicated to a specific decade dating back 100 years and tells two stories of historical significance.

The first details the history, accomplishments and growth of Rotary in Hawaii since 1915 plus notable Rotary International achievements made possible by the Rotary Foundation.

The second provides an historical account of important events occurring in the islands as

well as an overview of the transformation of Waikiki during this same 100-year period.

The "Roto-Stones" provide park visitors, both local and international, with a knowledge and perspective available in no other venue in the world.

THE CULTURE

Centennial Park will be a place of vibrancy and culture!

The “**Paul Harris Lawn**”, an elevated, grass performance area, will be the site of Hawaiian Storytelling, Keiki Hula events, Royal Hawaiian Band Performances and many other cultural and educational activities.



THE GARDENS

In the true spirit of Rotary, the perimeter garden areas will be prepared and planted by Rotarians from throughout the State under the watchful eye of professional landscaping experts.

A combination of native and introduced species will be selected to provide a lush and colorful groundcover.



The sense of unity in the creation of Centennial Park represents Rotary’s international mission of bringing people together to promote peace, humanity and the spirit of “Service Above Self”.



THE “GRAND LAWN”

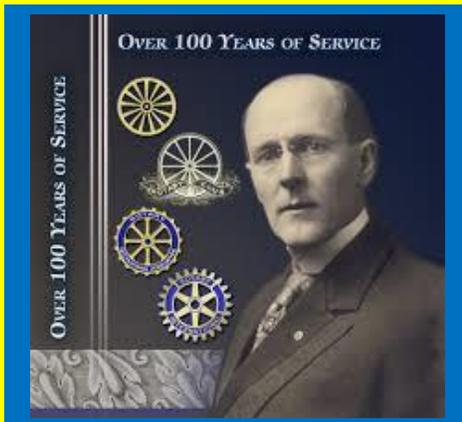
Centennial Park will be the only open, green-space within central Waikiki.

The expansive “Grand Lawn” allows room for children to run, play and enjoy quality time with family and friends. Existing trees along with new plantings will provide shade and comfort for picnics and leisure activities.

For over 100 years Rotarians have dedicated themselves to bettering the lives of children and families. Centennial Park is a testament to the Rotarian commitment of making a better world!



THE LEGACY



Rotary Founder, Paul Harris

This **once-in-a-lifetime** opportunity for Rotarians in Hawaii will create a timeless legacy where millions of families and individuals visit annually...Waikiki!

Centennial Park exemplifies the virtues of Rotary and offers an exclusive fountain of knowledge.

Its construction represents the commitment to achieve meaningful, positive change within a community.

Its landscaped grounds provide an oasis for children to run, play and enjoy the freedom and fancy of childhood.

It's engraved “Roto-Stones” provide a historical record of Rotary's impact in Hawaii and the amazing changes within our Islands over the past 100 years.

Finally, the hand planted, lush gardens lining the park perimeter signify the coming together of Rotarians from every club in Hawaii.

The toil of individual Rotarians in this unifying effort will transform a littered, barren patch of earth into a beautiful gathering place for future generations to learn, thrive and enjoy!



To donate or offer support toward the construction of Centennial Park please contact Dave Benson dcbenson@aol.com or 808-227-9189. Tax deductible donations may be sent to: District 5000/Centennial Park, c/o Rotary Club of Honolulu, 705 Queen St., Honolulu, HI 96813