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The Voice of Hawaii Kai

Ka Leo O Hawaii Kai

Monthly Bulletin of the Hawaii Kai Lions Club



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Fellow Lions:

Spring is nearly upon us. How time flies! In less than two months, our club will be 50! Fifty is quite a milestone and we should celebrate it and look back on how we came to be. I spoke to a couple of charter members to learn a little about the very early days.

Who is presently 104 years old (it's not a typo!) and a Lion for almost 50 years? Most of you know the answer: Lion Richard Okamoto, charter

member. After discharge from the military in 1946, Lion Richard worked as the Director of the Contact Division of the US Veterans Administration. He was invited more than once to be a Lion, but he declined, until 1973 when there was talk of forming a Hawaii Kai Club. Lion Richard recalls there were dozens of charter members, with Lion Rick Yee being instrumental in forming the club. Lion Richard remembers that Lion Rick's father was a Lion. Lion Richard did not know anyone and, although he had not belonged to any other community organization, the Lions was the right fit for him. The club was committed to serving the community and he was able to balance service with work, family, and fun. He described the members as being a mixture of very good people. The Father's Day breakfast (even though he missed the very first one), and the building of bus stops ranked tops in his memory. The club did not have a club house for its meetings, so they met in various restaurants in East Honolulu. No doubt, these are fond memories!

This recollection comes from Lion Bunny Lee, another of our charter members. He is not certain who invited him to become a Lion, but it may have been Lion Rick Yee, whose father was the owner of Davenroy Drycleaners and a Lion club president. He remembers a group of 33 men (yes, only men back then) met at Kamiloiki Elementary School to form the Hawaii Kai Lions Club. The very first club meeting was held in a conference room of Pacific Savings & Loan at the Koko Marina Center. As the club did not have a fixed meeting place, it met at various restaurants in East Hawaii but also places like the Hawaii Kai Library and even at a yacht club. Sometime after the Lions did a clean-up project for Lunalilo Home, the Hawaii Kai Lions were allowed to use Lunalilo Home's facilities as its clubhouse. Alas, in 1997 or thereabouts, Lunalilo Home underwent extensive renovations, and the Lions temporarily lost its clubhouse. (History is repeating itself.) Lions again roamed Hawaii Kai for meeting places such as Koko Head Elementary School cafeteria and Kuapa Isle

Clubhouse. Once the renovations were completed, the Lions resumed meeting at Lunalilo Home. Lion Bunny recalled the first pancake breakfast was "hard work," but the ingredients for the breakfast were mostly donated so the profit was good, how an experiment of fundraising with Zippy's Chili did not go as well as the pancake breakfast, building bus stop shelters, rebuilding fire escape stairs at Lunalilo Home (those stairs may outlast the building!), and making concrete benches for Kaiser High School. His favorite memory is the fellowship among members and their families, many of whom had young children.

More about the early days in next month's bulletin. But now a SHOUT OUT to our dedicated Lion chairs:

LISA ISHIBASHI and ERIC KVICK for organizing the repair of the concession stand at Kaiser High School in such a short time. Terrific job!

CYNTHIA CHUN for getting our club to support the Koko Head Lions' vision screening at Aina Haina Elementary School.

ALLEN UMEDA for coordinating the Seaweed Huki project even though it got canceled and rounding up dedicated Lions (who showed up despite the pouring rain and winds) to the Koko Head Club's Going Green Recycling event at Kahala Elementary School.

ELLSWORTH FUJII for planning the annual eyeglass cleaning; and to him and SILVIA ARDILA for their role in supporting the Great Aloha Run t-shirt distribution.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- March 2, 7-8 pm new member induction and membership meeting at Kalele Kai, with visit by 2nd VDG Candidate Lion Sean Benito.
- March 10, 11:30 am – 2 pm Koko Head Elementary School's Keiki Carnival.
- March 16, club meeting at Kalele Kai with speaker from Alzheimer's Association.
- March 24, 7:15-8:00 am Hahaione Elementary School Traffic Awareness Sign-waving
- March 25, 8:30-10:30 am Storm Drain marking.
- April 1, 8:00-11:00 am Easter Eggstravaganza at Koko Head District Park
- April 22 11 am at Niu Valley Gyotaku for 50TH ANNIVERSARY CHARTER CELEBRATION

Looking forward to a marvelous March!

Frances

Kaiser High Concession Stand Project



Hawaii Kai Lions with Athletic Director Nelson Chee.

Submitted by Lisa Ishibashi

On January 30 – February 2, 2023, six Hawaii Kai Lions, one CIS, two prospective Lions, and one prospective CIS refurbished the Kaiser High School concession stand. They worked from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. most of the days, with the last day until 12:45 p.m. The initial plan was to recondition the 18 cabinet doors on the left hand side of the stand and repainting those walls. In discussion with the Kaiser athletic director, it was decided to include the right hand side cabinets (8 more doors) and walls. And as the work progressed, it was agreed to add repairs to the front windows, repainting those windows and counter top, and constructing removable counter trays, so that the repainted counter tops would not get damaged.

Lions participating in this event included Jeanne Alices, Cynthia Chun, Prospective Lion Joni Fukuji, Prospective CIS Herb Fukuji, Yolisa Ishibashi, CIS Anthony Nakamura, Prospective Lion Kelvin Kaneoka, Walter Kuroiwa, and Ken Nishibun.

It was amazing that the work was completed withing four days, which included: sanding, priming, and painting all the cabinet doors; fixing the door catches and installing the door handles; making new cabinet doors (since the old ones were beyond repair); painting all the walls and the counter; making four counter trays, and cleaning the floors. Additional work will be done on the windows, as soon as the ordered parts are received, and a date scheduled for repair.

Thank you to those Lions and CIS who volunteered for this project and also to those prospective Lions and prospective CIS who were willing to jump in and help with paint brushes and tools in hand. The Kaiser High School athletic director, Nelson Chee, was very grateful for all of our hard work and appreciated our time and effort into this project.

Kaiser Concession Stand Photos



Kaiser High School Concession Stand (Before)



Kaiser High School Concession Stand (Work-In-Progress)



Kaiser High School Concession Stand (After)

Going Green E-Waste Recycling Drive



Hawaii Kai Lion Cynthia Chun taking away a computer monitor.

Submitted by Allen Umeda

Kahala Elementary School hosted a Going Green E-Waste Recycling event on February 4. The Koko Head Lions club organized volunteers from several Lions Clubs on Oahu to direct traffic and remove donated items from cars. As it was a rainy day and the recycler was short-handed, electronics items were stored in the school auditorium to be picked up later.

A variety of recyclable items were collected including office and home electronics, clothing, food, drink containers, batteries, and glasses.

Hawaii Kai Lions volunteers included Frances Lum, Cynthia Chun, Allen Umeda.



Lions Frances Lum, Cynthia Chun, and Allen Umeda.

Eyeglass Recycling



Hawaii Kai Lions and Kaiser High School Leo Club members.

Submitted by Ellsworth Fujii

On a beautiful but breezy Sunday, February 12 at 8:00 am, 12 Hawaii Kai Lions, 14 Kaiser High School Leos (including advisor Gordon Chun and brother Brando), and 3 guests sacrificed their Super Bowl morning for the Eyeglass Recycling project. Thank you to Lion Frances for allowing us to use her garage due to anticipated high gusts and rain. Guests included Winston Watarai, D50 Leo Advisor.

Some Leos sorted and selected only reusable eyeglasses, while everyone else washed and wiped the 2,067 eyeglasses and packed them in shipping boxes. Lions who helped with the project were Silvia Ardila, Kendrick Chang, Cynthia Chun, Sandy Gomes, Alvin Hayashibara, Stan Ito, Walter Kuriowa, Frances Lum, Marja Leivo, Appan Subramanian, CIS Lyn Yee, and Ellsworth Fujii. Two prospective Hawaii Kai Lions, Krysten Gallagher and Diane Taira, also helped with the cleaning.

Non-prescription sunglasses were placed in separate boxes and will be given to Lion Chris Chow, Waikiki 2000 LC who coordinates the collection of sunglasses that are given to foreign fishermen who are at sea for months and can't afford to buy sunglasses.

This year, due to downgraded Covid restrictions, we were again able to enjoy pizza and socializing after the cleaning was completed.

Thank you to the Lions who collected and stored eyeglasses from the various businesses and optometrists throughout the year.

Nine boxes of recycled eyeglasses were dropped off at DHX on Monday.

Thank you to Cynthia who made her delicious oatmeal/raisin and peanut butter cookies for the volunteers!

FUTURE EVENTS					
Date	Time	Event	Place	Attire	Project Chair
Thursday, 3/2	7:00-8:00pm	Membership Meeting Agenda: New Member Induction & Pancake Breakfast Planning	Kalele Kai Condominium	Club Shirt	N/A
Thursday, 3/9	7:00-8:00pm	Board Meeting	Zoom	Club Shirt	N/A
Friday, 3/10	11:30am- 2:00pm	Koko Head Elementary School Keiki Karnival	Koko Head Elementary School	Work Shirt	Frances Lum
Thursday, 3/16	7:00-8:00pm	Membership Meeting Agenda: Alzheimer's Association	Kalele Kai Condominium	Club Shirt	N/A
Friday, 3/24	7:15-8:00am	Hahaione Elementary School Traffic Awareness Sign Waving	Hahaione Elementary School	Work Shirt	Ken Nishibun
Saturday, 3/25	8:30-10:30am	Storm Drain Marking	Mariner's Cove Address TBA	Work Shirt	Allen Umeda
Saturday, 4/1	8:00-11:00am	City Parks and Recreation — Easter Eggstravaganza	Koko Head District Park	Work Shirt	Ells Fujii
Saturday, 4/22	11:30am- 2:30pm	50th Year Charter Celebration	Gyotaku Niu Valley Restaurant	Aloha Shirt	Kaz Nakano

Kalele Kai Condominium Directions For Club Meetings

Aloha everyone!

In-person meetings will be held at 1 Keahole Place, Hawaii Kai. (Kalele Kai Condominiums). Please arrive between 6:45 PM and 7.00 PM. Someone will be at the Main entrance "IN" to open the gate. Once in, you can enter the Clubhouse ("Cabana") area via Gate 1 or 2. Gate 1 opens normally from the outside; but with Gate 2, you have to reach over and inside the gate to release the latch. There is generous parking, but in case everyone shows up in separate cars there is even more parking next door at the Safeway mall, immediately adjacent to the condo complex. Remember the meetings start at 7 PM and anyone arriving after that time please park at the Safeway lot, and, at the main "IN" gate call 808-384-7415 for the gate to be opened.

Please email me if you have any questions.

Lion Appan

BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	DATE OF INDUCTION	Membership	
3/3 Ed Lee 3/6 Andy Uramoto 3/10 CIS Iris Iwana 3/19 Mino Takaesu 3/19 CIS Joan Sindong 3/27 Niru Subramanian 3/27 Matt Sonnichsen 3/30 CIS Patsy Takaesu	3/5 Allen Umeda and Fumiko	3/1/2013 Dave Iwana	Active	46
			Student	0
			Affiliate	4
			At-Large	3
			Privileged	0
			Total	53

District 50 Region V, Zone 2		Hawaii Kai Lions Club Officers – 2022-2023			
Honolulu, HI – Chartered 4/9/1973		President IPP	Frances Lum	Secretary Tail Twister	Cynthia Chun
Intl President	Brian Sheehan	1 st VP	Ellsworth Fujii	Directors	Patrick Lynch
District Governor	Gary Nip	2 nd VP	Ellsworth Fujii		David Iwana
1 st VD Governor	CJ Kalopodes	3 rd VP	Silvia Ardila		Tom Jones
2 nd VD Governor	Dr. Lori Yamashita	Treasurer	Yolisa Ishibashi	Mem. Dir.	Kendrick S. Chang
Zone Chair	Richard Kaneko	Lion Tamer	Jeanne Alices	Bull. Ed.	Kendrick S. Chang
Region 5 Zone 2			Tom Ono	Service Chair	Alvin Hayashibara
Zone II	David Iwana				
HLF Trustee					