"Aloha mai kako" from President Ellie Kaanaana to members & guests at the 2,798th meeting of the Rotary Club of Pearl Harbor. Where we Bridge the Gap through Building Communities, Bridging Continents.

Club Service Director Kim Moore, Youth Development Specialist of Pacific Air Forces, provided the Inspiration. A member since April 20, 2009, she was sponsored by PP Ernie Anderson.

Sergeant-at-arms Stefanie Wilson, Professor of Business, University of Hawaii West Oahu, led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. A member since March 8, 2010, she was sponsored by PP Ernie Anderson.

Harmony of the Pacific Chair George Topic, Principal Broker Topic Realty, led us in Singing “God Bless America”. A member since February 6, 1967, he was sponsored by Wally Backus.

RECOGNITION

Sergeant-at-Arms Stefanie Wilson recognized D5000 leadership: PDG Jim Varner, Alumni Chair Steve Dyer, Interact Chair Donna McLaughlin, District Trainer Stefanie Wilson, & RYLA Oahu Chair Kim Moore; visiting Rotarians within D5000: Calabash member Alan Lloyd (Windward); Dexter Yee (Mililani Sunrise), Gayle Lau (West Honolulu); Guests of Rotarians: Les & Diane Hunkele, Don & Joyce Arakaki (Ernie Anderson), Ted Meeker (Steve Dyer), Karlton Tomomitsu (Alice Clark), and Willa Gardner (Connie Kraus).

CELEBRATIONS

President Ellie recognized Birthdays: John McLaughlin Feb. 10, Mimi Deibler (Bob) Feb. 22 & Donna McLaughlin on Feb. 26,
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS


President Ellie thanked International Director Bill Bow and his Hiroshima Sister Club Visit committee. She also acknowledged the individual contributions of Kathy Bow (Welcome Gift Bags), Raymond Noh (luggage transport), calabash member Alan Lloyd (Kauai Escort for golf and sightseeing), Donna McLaughlin (for coordinating the hula lesson), Harvey Gray (joint meeting power point, COMPILED and printed Visit Book, and USS Arizona Memorial tour.)

HAPPY BUCKS


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dexter Yee (Mililani Sunrise) invited the RCPH to join Leeward and Central Oahu Rotary clubs to support the Career, College and Job Fair at UH’s Leeward Community College on April 20, 2011.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

President Ellie inducted two new members, Les Hunkele (Ernie Anderson) and Ted Meeker (Steve Dyer). President Ellie presented kukui nut lei with a blessing. Les’s classification is Facilities Engineering and Ted’s classification is Federal Law (Retired). Following the ceremony, Pearl Harbor Rotarians welcomed new members Les & Ted with a rousing standing ovation!

NEW OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Nominated Committee Chair PP Harvey Gray gave the Third Reading of Slate of Club nominees: Officers: President Connie Kraus, President-elect Doug Taylor, Vice President Les Hunkele, Secretary Debbie Deibler, Treasurer Stella Kimura; Directors - One Year terms: Raymond Noh, Ernie Anderson, Bill
Bow and Two Year terms: Kim Moore, Jeffrey Sarver. No further nominations were received at today’s third reading. The call for a vote for the Election of Nomination Slate was passed unanimously. Congratulations to the 2011-2012 RCPH Officers and Directors!

**PROGRAM**

Program Chair Jeffrey Deer introduced our guest speaker Jim Hickerson who was born in 1934 in Lenoir, North Carolina. He was commissioned through the Navy ROTC program at the Georgia Institute of Technology on June 1, 1956, and went on active duty beginning September 4, 1956. Jim completed flight training and was designated a Naval Aviator on December 6, 1957, followed by service as a flight instructor at NAS Memphis, Tennessee, until February 1958. He then completed fleet replacement pilot training before joining VA-155 flying A-4 Skyhawks at NAS Moffet Field, California, from March 1960 to December 1962, during which time he deployed on two cruises to the West Pacific aboard the aircraft carrier USS Coral Sea (CVA-43). His next assignment was as an exchange pilot with the U.S. Marine Corps, flying A-4’s with VMA-311 at MCAS El Toro, California, from December 1962 to January 1964. LT Hickerson then attended Naval Test Pilot School at NAS Patuxent River, Maryland, before serving as a Weapons Systems Test Project Officer until January 1967. During this time, he became the 5th Naval Aviator to fly the A-7 Corsair II and he participated in the early testing of that aircraft. He joined VA-147, the first A-7 squadron, at NAS Lemoore, California, in June 1967, and deployed aboard the aircraft carrier USS Ranger (CVA-61) in October 1967. LCDR Hickerson was forced to eject over North Vietnam on December 22, 1967, and was taken as a Prisoner of War in December 1967, and was taken as a Prisoner of War on December 22, 1967, and was taken as a Prisoner of War on December 22, 1967, and was taken as a Prisoner of War on December 22, 1967, and was taken as a Prisoner of War. Becoming the first A-7 pilot shot down during the Vietnam War, also the first A-7 pilot to be captured. After spending 1,909 days in captivity, CDR Hickerson was released during Operation Homecoming on March 14, 1973. He was briefly hospitalized to recover from his injuries at the Naval Hospital in Oakland, California, and then regained flying status, serving as Commander of VA-12 at NAS Cecil Field, Florida and aboard the aircraft carrier USS Independence (CV-62) from February 1975 to February 1976, followed by service as Operations Officer of the aircraft carrier USS America (CV-66) from February 1976 to June 1977. He then attended Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, from July 1977 to September 1978, followed by service at Point Magu, California, from September 1978 until his retirement from the Navy on November 1, 1986. During this time, Capt Hickerson served as the Weapons Systems Test Officer at the Pacific Missile Test Center (PMTC), Director of the PMTC Range Directorate, Commanding Officer of Naval Air Reserve Forces at Point Magu, and as Vice Commander of PMTC. After retiring from the Navy, Jim joined Computer Sciences Corporation and Anteon Corporation, where he worked as a Project Manager and Senior Project Manager before retiring in 2004.

“During my stay in the Hilton, faith in God, Country, and fellow POWs enabled me to keep sight of the light at the end of the tunnel.” Jim cited examples of events that demonstrated where maintaining faith in each of the three, God, Country and fellow POWs, enabled him to survive the prison ordeal and forever effected his life. “The realization of just how lucky I am to be an American citizen is far and away the foremost lesson learned during my captivity.”

Captain James Hickerson retired from the United States Navy in 1986 and he and his wife Carole reside in Hawaii. Jim and his wife Carole have three children - Todd, Jim, and Jenny. His Silver Star Citation reads: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity while interred as a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam. On 27 December 1967, his captors, completely ignoring international agreements, subjected him to extreme mental and physical cruelties in an attempt to obtain military information and false confessions for propaganda purposes. Through his resistance to those brutalities, he contributed significantly toward the eventual abandonment of harsh treatment by the North Vietnamese, which was attracting international attention. By his determination, courage, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty, he reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Na-
val Service and the United States Armed Forces.

President Ellie Kaanaana commended Jim Hickerson for his significant contribution to our country and thanked him for serving so bravely and for his inspiring presentation. She asked him to sign the book *Baby Honu Saves the Day* by Tammy Lee. This book will be donated to Aiea Elementary School in his name to promote literacy.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Harvey Gray led us in the 4-Way Test.

**DR. SEUSS BIRTHDAY**

Dr. Seuss Birthday was celebrated March 1st by reading to Aiea Elementary School students. RCPH volunteers were: Bill Bow, Debbie Deibler, Sam Heard, Connie & Gene Kraus, John McLaughlin & Stefanie Wilson.

**March Literacy Month**

- Mar 7: Bob Sigal, New Book
- Mar 14: Mary Steiner, The Outdoor Circle
- Mar 21: Doug Carlson, Rail Update
- Mar 28: TBA

**THE 4-WAY TEST**

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH?
   ‘Oia ‘o i keia o‘ele
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
   Kupono ia ka kou
3. Will it BUILD GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
   Kukulu lokomaika‘i a me pilialoha maika‘i a e
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?
   Pono ia ka kou