Aloha mai kao! President Ellie Kaanaana, welcomed guests and members to the 2,801 meeting of the Rotary Club of Pearl Harbor where we Bridge the Gap to enhance the vitality and viability of our club through Rotary International’s three Strategic priorities: Support & Strengthen our club, Focus & Increase Humanitarian Service and Enhance Public Image five core values, Service, Fellowship, Diversity, Integrity and Leadership BUILDING COMMUNITIES AND BRIDGING CONTINENTS.

Leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance was Assistant Sgt-at-arms John Mihlbauer, retired Coast Guard Captain, former owner & consultant to All Ship & Cargo Surveys, Inc. He has been a member since 27 October 1982, and was sponsored by Pete Latham.

Our Song Leader was Past Service Projects Director Lenny Katsarsky. Lenny is a long term care specialist with CPS Hawaii. He’s been a member since October 31, 2005, and was sponsored by Augie Rey Fernandez.
IN THE WAKE

RECOGNITION

Acting Sgt at Arms & PE Connie Kraus acknowledged District 5000 leadership: Past District Governor Jim Varner, RYLA Oahu Chair Kim Moore, Foundation Alumni Co-Chair Steve Dyer; Visiting Rotarians from within District 5000: Calabash member Alan Lloyd (Windward); Guest of Rotarians: Patrick Matsumoto, American Savings Bank (Steve Dyer), and Karlton Tomomitsu (Alice Clark).

CELEBRATIONS

March 24, 1975 Jim Varner induction anniversary, he was sponsored by Don Shaw, March 21 - Ernie Anderson’s Birthday.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

"I CAN" Program. Thank you all who brought canned goods for the Hawaii Foodbank to feed the poor, needy and homeless.

HAPPY BUCKS

Jim Varner $72 to TRF in honor of his and Bob Deibler’s induction anniversary March 24, 1975. Bill Bow $36 TRF Bob Deibler Fund, Ellie Kaanaana $36 TRF Bob Deibler & Jim Varner induction anniversaries, Kim Moore $5, happy that she came home safely from Japan. Lori Williams $20 TRF great BBQ yesterday with Jeff Sarver, Jeff Sarver matched Kim Moore

VOLUNTEERS - GREAT PROJECTS!

Kelki Vision at Aiea Elementary, Tuesday, March 29, 2011, 0800-1000

Rotary-at-Work Cleaning Blaisdell Park, Saturday, April 20, 2011

Please sign up with P-E & Service Project Director Connie Kraus.

PROGRAM

PP Bill Bow introduced our guest speaker Mark Garritty, Senior Transportation Planner with Parsons Brinckerhoff, currently working on the Honolulu Rail Transit Project. Along with degrees in Architecture and Urban Planning, Mark has more than 15 years of experience in rail and bus transit planning. He has prepared environmental impact studies and conducted analysis of large complex rail and bus transit projects as well as arterial roadway and highway projects. Mark is currently managing the transportation and land use planning tasks for Honolulu’s new 20-mile elevated rail transit line.

The project is a 20-mile elevated rail line that will connect West Oahu with downtown Honolulu and Ala Moana Center. The system features electric, steel-wheel trains capable of carrying more than 300 passengers each. Trains can carry more than 8,000 passengers per hour in each direction. New bus routes will provide direct connections to the stations. The roads and freeways are often congested, limiting our mobility. A fully elevated, rail transit system will be able to move thousands of people per hour without taking away the already limited highway and road space we have now. The elevated system will operate with precision and reliability. So, if you need to be at work by 8 a.m., you’ll arrive at work by 8 a.m., even if it’s raining or there’s a big accident on H-1. There will be just three minutes between rail vehicles during peak hours, so you won’t have to check the schedule to catch the next one. Construction of the rail line will create 10,000 jobs a year on average and increase state and city revenues. Kiewit was awarded first phase of construction. Rail transit can be powered by electricity from renewable sources, and is endorsed nationally by the Sierra Club.
It is vital that improved infrastructure is in place to support West Oahu’s growth. It will help focus growth in designated areas, and away from areas where we don’t want it – helping to “keep the country country.” Rail transit is affordable for working families, seniors, and students. Rides will cost the same as TheBus, come with a free transfer, and like now, a monthly pass will work system-wide. Rail transit, as part of an overall public transportation system, is a way to enhance Honolulu’s quality of life, by easing traffic congestion, enhancing our economy, reducing pollution, and providing greater mobility for us and future generations.

Our club is steeped in tradition; one of our favorites is, instead offering a pen or a pin to our guest speaker, we present a children's book for our guest speaker to autograph. In honor of our speakers and support of our Literacy Program, all of the autographed books are donated to the Read to Me Program at Aiea Elementary. President Ellie presented *The Story of China-man’s Hat* by Dean Howell for Mark’s signature.
They included the Trevi Fountain in Rome; a Lantern Festival gate in Taiwan; the parliament building in The Hague; the globe of the SM Mall of Asia in Manila, Philippines; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation headquarters in Seattle, Washington, USA; Byblos Castle in Byblos, Lebanon; and the soccer stadium in Cape Town, South Africa, among others.

Other responses have included:

Three Rotary districts in Japan are using district funds to help. District 2610 (Ishikawa and Toyama) has developed an emergency relief project to provide public housing for up to 500 families evacuated from the disaster areas. District 2840 (Gunma) shortened its presidents-elect training seminars from two days to half a day and donated the remaining funds earmarked for the seminars to relief efforts. And District 2680 (Hyogo) set up a contribution box during its district conference, raising about $7,500 for recovery efforts.

The Rotary Club of Akashi, Hyogo, sent a private airplane carrying a load of medical supplies to the Rotary Club of Sukagawa, Fukushima, which delivered them to a hospital near Fukushima Airport. The governor of District 2640 (Wakayama and parts of Osaka) and six Rotarians also brought 1,000 blankets to Rotarians in the Fukushima region.

End Polio Now

Iconic landmarks around the world served as the backdrop for the End Polio Now message the week of 23 February in honor of Rotary’s 106th anniversary.