Aloha mai kāko! President Ellie Kaanaana welcomed guests and members to the 2,802 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 in silent prayer for Japan today was PP Stephen Dyer. He affirmed Rotary dollars are going to good use! He is a partner with Ayabe, Chong, Nishimoto, Sia and Nakamura, Attorneys at Law. He’s been a member since July 29, 1991, and sponsored by Don Devaney. Leading us in the pledge of allegiance today is Past Treasurer Gene Kraus, Retired Electrical Engineer, USAF. He’s been a member since March 29, 2004, and sponsored by Bob Deibler.

Our song leader today was Harmony of the Pacific Chair George Topic, Principal Broker for Topic Realty. He led members and guests in singing “Grand Old Flag” with gusto! He’s been a member since February 6, 1967, and sponsored by Wally Backus.

Sgt-at-Arms Stefanie Wilson acknowledged District 5000 leadership: Alumni Chair Stephen Dyer, District Trainer Stefanie Wilson, Interact Chair Donna McLaughlin, RYLA Oahu Chair Kim Moore, HRYF Board member Bruce Fink; Visiting Rotarians from within District
5000: Calabash member Alan Lloyd (Windward); Guests of Rotarians: Laura Brown, LRP Hawaii & Hawaii Voters and Patrick Matsumoto, American Savings Bank (Ellie Kaanaana).

President Ellie recognized Shirley Robinson’s Birthday on April 2, and Bee Clark’s Induction Anniversary on April 1.

Mahalo to our “I CAN” donors of canned food for the hungry and homeless: Alice & Bee Clark, Bruce Fink, Judy Heller, Connie & Gene Kraus, John & Donna McLaughlin, John Mihlbauer, Jim Varner, & Alan Lloyd.

The Rotary Foundation received donations from: Debbie Deibler $5, she enjoyed the cancer fundraiser dancing. Judy Heller $20 she’s so glad her daughter is fine in Japan. Doug Taylor $20 feels so lucky that he didn’t get a speeding ticket, Les Hunkele $20 back from Truk and 182 feet dive. The club received donations from: Lori Williams $5 to counter Debbie’s request to dance for the club today. Bruce Fink $20 happy that he knew where to start backup during power outage so they could finish their work.

PE Connie Kraus announced Keiki Vision, 0800-1000 March 29, 2011, Aiea Elementary School and Rotary-at-work-day, April 30, 2011 Blaisdell Park. Please sign up with her to work at these events.

Keiki Vision/Read To Me at Aiea Elementary March 29

Mahalo to volunteers Bill Bow, Debbie Deibler, Willa Gardner, Ellie Kaanaana, Connie Kraus, Gene Kraus, Pat Middleton, Shirley Robinson, Jeff Sarver, Karlton Tomomitsu, Lori Williams, Stefanie Wilson, and Dr. Eryle Okamura, optometrist, for supporting the Keiki Vision project.
The students were given various eye tests. They also enjoyed the Read To Me session and each student received a book from our club.

Slippers for the Homeless Shoebox Project  
Moanalua Elementary, March 29

PP Donna McLaughlin, 5th grade substitute teacher, is pictured with Moanalua Elementary’s Principal Jamie Oshiro, who accepted the 700+ slippers, delivered to the school by PP Jeff Deer on behalf of the Rotary Club of Pearl Harbor. The school is involved in a Homeless Shoebox Project in partnership with Chinen & Arinaga Financial Services; slippers were one of the items requested for the shoeboxes. These slippers are part of a large donation received from Surfah Hawaii, and RCPH and partnering Rotary clubs have been distributing the slippers to schools and those in need.

IN THE WAKE

Program Chair Jeff Deer introduced guest speaker Jay McWilliams of Hawaii Reporter, State of Hawaii Special Funds.

Jay McWilliams is co-editor of HawaiiVotes.org, a project of Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. HawaiiVotes offers clearly written summaries of the bills making their way through the state Legislature. This service tracks the voting record of every state Senator and Representative so that constituents can see how their legislators voted on every bill that makes it to the House and Senate for a floor vote. She is co-owner of Legislation and Research Partners, LLC, a company that specializes in legislation tracking, research services and government transparency investigation.

She has lived in Hawaii since 1975, and graduated in 1986 with a degree in journalism from the University of Hawaii. Since then, she has been a reporter for monthly and weekly newspapers, an editor for monthly magazines, co-founded a daily online newspaper, and collected and distributed court public records for more than 8 years.

Laura Brown is her business partner and they spend so much time “digesting bills”, as 3,220 bills were introduced this session. But they are seeing more and more ridiculous bills being passed, even bills that are unconstitutional. When the Civil Union Bill came around Representative Sam Slom was against it, in fact most people were against it. However, the Legislature pulled a fast one, after spending 18 hours discussing it and while it was voted down in committee, it passed on the floor. There is $1.9 billion in excess money accumulating in 186 special funds, but you have to know where to look to find the funds and it’s a month’s worth of work! Number one concern is Hurricane Relief Fund that was established in the Hurricane Iniki aftermath; homeowners are required to pay into this fund; instead of using the funds for its purpose intended, these funds have been used to balance the General Fund budget. Jay contends that 184 or 186 special fund accounts need to be repealed. Unfortunately, promises are not honored, and the special funds are not used for the purpose of which they were initially established. She stated that 120 Senate bills are illegal.

No one’s watching! But now you can! Constituents can
The most successful projects require Rotarian sponsors to overcome formidable obstacles. As Past RI President Clem Renouf said, Rotary enables ordinary people to do extraordinary things. I agree with his assessment, and I salute the many Rotarians engaged in signature projects. The second priority of the revised RI Strategic Plan is to focus and increase humanitarian service, and our clubs need to undertake significant and sustainable projects.

What is the secret of our success? I think it is the recruitment and retention of club members who not only do things right but who do the right things.

As clubs consider significant community projects, members usually discover that they have the talent, resources, and the willingness to do the job. With that discovery comes the commitment to improve and build their communities, and that is the magic of Rotary!

review bills and track votes by their representatives and senators, then click on their email and make inquiries and request response. Let them know that you’re watching! It’s a great way to give immediate feedback and expectations. She urged constituents to make better use of technology. With this current data we may question them very easily by email.

On a high note, 148 special funds need to be repealed, such as attacking University of Hawaii special funds. There’s a long way to go, i.e. Compliance Resolution, beverage container deposit, rental motor vehicle charge of $3.00 collected for a never built the facility. Jay suggests monies from the repealed special funds could be used to fix potholes and other needed projects!

President Ellie thanked Jay McWilliams for her enlightening presentation and asked her to sign the children’s book *Keiki, The Little Fish with a Spectacular Wish* by Yuko Green that will be donated to an elementary school in her honor to promote literacy.

**ADJOURNMENT**

PP Bruce Fink led us in the Four-Way Test.

**THE 4-WAY TEST**

Of the things we think, say or do
1. Is it the TRUTH?
   ‘Oia ‘O ia keia o’eleo
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
   Kupono ia ka kou
3. Will it BUILD GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
   Kukulu lokomaika‘ia me pialohoa maika‘ia‘e
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?
   Pono ia ka kou