President Doug Taylor welcomed members and guests to the 2869th meeting of the Rotary Club of Pearl Harbor where we pursue Peace Through Service.

Our inspiration was led by Dudley Fullard-Leo, “The power of imagination makes us infinite” by John Muir. Dudley has been a member since February, 1996 and sponsored by John Mihlbauer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Mihlbauer, a member since October, 1982 and sponsored by Pete Latham.

George Topic, inducted in February, 1967 and sponsored by Wally Backus, led us in singing “Glory-Glory (On Rotarians)”.


IN THE WAKE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“I CAN” donators: Bee and Alice Clark, Bruce Fink, John and Donna McLaughlin, Gene and Connie Kraus, and Alan Lloyd.

HAPPY BUCKS

Doug Taylor, $100 to the Club, glad to be back from his 50th reunion in Oregon and visiting his Alma Mater. Steve Dyer, $20 to the Foundation for his wife’s upcoming birthday. Gene Kraus, $20 to the Foundation happy with Oregon’s Football Team’s national ranking and also with Oregon State. Raymond Noh, $20 to the Club, he was invited to a Halloween Party at the playboy mansion last week.

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW AWARD

Program Chair, Jeff Deer, introduced Barbara Bancel, the Founding Director of International Hospitality Center. Barbara, a resident of Hawaii for 37 years, was an exchange student and has lived, traveled and studied in Europe, Asia, Australia, and South America. Barbara is married to Philip Bancel, a former Frenchman, who was the wrestling coach for the Marine Corps in Hawaii. Philip might be the oldest snowboarder on earth at 71.

The International Hospitality Center (IHC) is Hawaii’s private, not-for-profit, community-based volunteer organization dedicated to providing opportunities for cross-cultural learning and international educational exchange. A community network of over 1,200 volunteers statewide assists the IHC Executive Director in providing services for approximately 4,900 participants from 48 countries annually. Services include professional programming, home hospitality, short- and long-term home stays (3 days to 4 weeks and 2 to 10 months), cross cultural orientations, English language study programs for participants (sponsored international exchange students, government and foundation grantees, and foreign military).

Barbara founded the company in 1976, and is aided by an advisory board, composed of community leaders, who suggest policy, new programs and assists with community relations IHC is funded entirely by fees for administrative services. These funds help defray the expenses incurred in placing participants for

Electronic Warfare Squadron 2. The beautiful framed photo was taken on July 21, 2012 when a VMAQ-2 prowler aircrew carried an American flag over Afghanistan in combat in honor of RCPH. The mission originated from Bagram Air Force Base in Afghanistan. During this mission, VMAQ2 provided electronic warfare to the coalition forces in direct combat as part of Enduring Freedom.

PROGRAM

Past President Connie Kraus announced the Club’s Rotary Foundation Dinner auction to be held at the Outrigger Canoe Club on Saturday, 10 November at 5:30 pm.

President Doug presented International Service Chair, Bill Bow with his latest Paul Harris Fellow Pin, with one ruby in it, in recognition of his contribution to the Rotary Foundation of over $7,000.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Past President Connie Kraus presented President Doug a gift RCPH received from Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 2.
a wide variety of sponsoring educational, cultural exchange, and government agencies.

Last year the company provided services to 4783 participants in 43 countries. They have 40 students this year in the academic semester program who are attending both private and public schools - similar to the Rotary high school scholarship program. Among them are 15 students who are guests of the US government FLEX (Future Leaders Exchange) and YES (Youth Exchange and Study) programs developed post 9/11 by Senator Kennedy and Senator Lugar.

Barbara asked her guests to introduce themselves and talk about the experience of their stay in Hawaii.

Zalina Blenaova, Barbara Bancel, Sergiy Shtukarin, Natalia Vileu-Bajucean, and Umut Berker Seviluis

Natalia Vileu-Bajucean is from the Republic of Moldova, a small country in the middle of Europe. She works as a legal advisor for the Minister of Justice and was one of a number of applicants for the exchange program. She feels very fortunate that she was chosen to come to Hawaii. The head of her host family is a retired Army Officer. She has visited a number of interesting places during the past 3 weeks. She is very grateful for the welcome she has received during her visit to Hawaii and notes that the people are eager to learn about her culture. She is working for the State Attorney General and compares how things are done here in the United States with the way they are done at home. She sees a number of things she would like to adopt and implement in her country.

Sergiy Shtukarin is from the Ukraine and grew up post Communist Republic. His first trip to the US was in 1996 when the Cold War era was still fresh on the minds of many. He was hosted by a family in Michigan and he fondly remembers “Duck and Cover” film footage. The film, which is about 10 minutes long explains what children should do "when you see the flash" of an atomic bomb. The movie goes on to suggest that by ducking down low in the event of a nuclear explosion, the children would be safer than they would be standing, and explains some basic survival tactics for nuclear war. He loves the dress code here in Hawaii, he doesn’t need to wear shoes and a tie. Sergiy prefers Aloha shirts and shorts attire. He works as an Executive Director of Political Studies and he does sociological research. He is familiar with the work of Rotary since his colleague is a local Rotarian.

Zalina Blenaova is from Russia and works for the Parliamentary Cooperation Committee and the Environment. It is one of the free subjects in Russia. She is honored to have been chosen to come to Hawaii. She works in the office of Representative Gene Ward to assist with day to day operations mostly relating to environmental issues. Zalina mentioned that the best thing she has learned is how we discuss issues openly with transparency and boldness in decision making. This is what she would like to implement back home. She also is grateful that she was placed with a host family that took good care of her. Her colleagues on the mainland were not as lucky.

Umut Berker Seviluis is from Turkey and works for the government in the Ministry of Interior. He is the Project Manager for local and international projects. During his stay in Hawaii, he has worked with two different organizations. He worked with Lieutenant Governor Brian Schatz and ATRC (Assistive Technology Resource Center). He met with different government officials and was able to see the structure of Hawaii as a State. ATRC is a federally funded, private non-profit whose mission is to link people with technology and empower individuals through its use. Their primary role is as an education center for anyone interested about Assistive Technology. Umut is hosted by Honolulu Club Rotarians, Barbara and Michael Leong. He likes to cook for them and they treat him as member of their family. Umut is grateful for being shown what “Aloha spirit” means by his host family.
President Doug thanked the guests asked them to sign a book, “Little Red Riding Hood”, by Tammie Lyon, to be donated in their honor to Aiea Elementary School to promote literacy.

John Doty led us in the 4-Way Test.

Rotary's programs for students and youth can change the lives of those who participate. Through these programs, young people can earn scholarships, travel on cultural exchanges, or help a community through a service project.

The Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship program will end in 2013. Beginning in 2013-14, The Foundation will offer scholarship opportunities through district and global grants. This new grant structure gives Rotarians greater flexibility in sponsoring the next generation of leaders.

The 2010-11 class of Ambassadorial Scholars received US $9.6 million through individual grants of $25,000. Since 1947, a total of $532 million has been awarded to 41,000 men and women.

The Ambassadorial Scholarships program promotes international understanding and friendly relations among people of different parts of the world.

The scholarships sponsor undergraduate and graduate students, as well as qualified professionals pursuing vocational studies. While abroad, scholars serve as goodwill ambassadors to the country where they study and give presentations about their own culture to Rotary clubs and other groups. Back home, scholars share with Rotarians and others the experiences that deepened their understanding of another culture. Through their generous contributions, Rotarians worldwide show a continued faith that today’s scholars will be tomorrow's community and world leaders.