

(A) What is Rotary?

- Rotary is a non-profit organization, a 501(c)(4), founded in Chicago by lawyer Paul Harris on Feb. 23, 1905. Originally, there were 4 members. The word "Rotary" conveyed the original plan of the members to meet "in rotation" at their various places of business.
- Approximately 1.2 million Rotarians are now members of 32,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographic areas. In Hawai'i, there are 43 clubs, with approximately 2,200 members. The Big Island has 7 clubs: 4 clubs in East Hawai'i , 3 in West Hawai'i.
- Rotary Club members are business and professional leaders who volunteer in their communities, provide humanitarian service, and who help promote peace and understanding throughout the world.
- Rotary Foundation, begun in 1917, provides US \$100 million a year toward humanitarian grants, educational programs, and Polio Plus.
- Polio Plus is Rotary's flagship program. Rotarians have contributed over US \$600 million to immunize two billion children against polio from 1985 to the present. Polio has been eradicated in 210 countries and geographical regions.
- 4 areas of emphasis by Rotary International: water management, literacy, health and hunger, and family of Rotary.

Rotary International President in 2007-08 – Wilfrid Wilkinson

District 5000 (Hawaii)

District Governor – George Fontaine

Assistant District Governor for East Hawai'i – Albert Jeyte (telephone 896-5769)

Rotary Club of Hilo – Gay Porter, President – rep. by **Rick Newkold**

Rotary Club of South Hilo – Jack Stevenson, President – rep. by **Tracie Yoshimoto**

Rotary Club of Hilo Bay – **Richard Crowe**, President

Rotary Club of Volcano – Don Hughes, President

July = **New Officers Month** (new Boards of Directors have been installed)

(B) Community Service Projects:

ABCs Through Rotary School Supplies Drive: Rotary clubs from Oahu, Maui and Hawaii will conduct a joint school supplies drive to benefit underprivileged students on Saturday, July 28. While Rotarians have conducted school supplies drives in the past, this is a first-time effort for Rotary District 5000 clubs to hold collections during the same hours and on the same day. On the Big Island, the East Hawaii Rotary Clubs of Hilo, South Hilo, Hilo Bay and Volcano will incorporate fun and fellowship during this community service/literacy project. Visit them at the downtown Hilo Long's Drugs store, also from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 28. Rotarians will donate the supplies to area elementary, middle, and high schools, in addition to organizations such as Child and Family Service, Boys and Girls Clubs of Hawaii, various shelters, local churches, and to students from homeless families.

American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association Conference: Rainwater harvesting enthusiasts, practitioners, and experts will join at the 2007 American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association Conference to discuss a broad range of rainwater catchment topics, including potable and non-potable household supply, storm-water runoff control, groundwater recharge, sustainable development, floods and droughts. This conference will present information valuable to users, public health officials, academics, designers, installers, architects, builders, product vendors, students, planners, and water utility staff. Clubs on the island are supporting the Water Catchment conference, scheduled August 14-17, 2007 at the Kilauea Military Camp, in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. There will be a Meet the Community Dinner at Kea`au High School, from 5:00-8:30 p.m. on August 16, that is open to the public, during which a Q&A will take place with panelists. The cost is \$10.00.

Keiki Vision – screening of 3rd graders at various schools. Needed: permission from the parents, observation (red eyes, crustiness of lids, etc.), and reading of charts for nearsighted and farsighted challenges. Results are shared with the parents – results may indicate that the child may need to be checked by an optometrist.

Hawaii Rotary Dictionary Project: Rotary clubs donate dictionaries to 3rd grade students. Members of the clubs present the dictionaries to the children in their classrooms. Rotary volunteers will visit each school to distribute the dictionaries. Students are asked to write their names in their books in the space provided on the Rotary label. A brief lesson on how to use the book is given and students are asked to find certain words to demonstrate their comprehension. At the end of the visit, the children are asked to use the dictionary to write a thank you note to the Individual and/or Rotary club. For each book, labels with the Rotary logo and the Four Way Test will be provided.

(C) International Service Projects:

Polio Plus: Polio Plus is Rotary's flagship program. Rotarians have contributed over US \$600 million to immunize two billion children against polio from 1985 to the present. Polio has been eradicated in 210 countries and geographical regions. It has nearly been eradicated in four other countries - where it remains endemic in limited areas - Nigeria, India, Afghanistan and Uganda. Only 213 new cases have been reported to date in the year 2007.

National Immunization Day Excursion to Nigeria (November 10-20): This year, our District 5000 NID group will depart for Nigeria on Saturday, 10 November, where they will overnight in Amsterdam before arriving in Abuja on 12 November. They will return to the U.S. on Tuesday, 20 November, before Thanksgiving. The size of the group is limited to 100 people. These Rotarians will have the opportunity to help immunize every child there under 5 with oral polio vaccine. Those that have participated say that it is a life-changing experience.

Youth Exchange Program: Rotary Club of Hilo is sponsoring an outbound student, Leilani Rapaport from West Hawaii, who will be going to Spain. She's one of 11 outbound students for the next school year. The Rotary Club of South Hilo is sponsoring an inbound student, Nana Ishikawa from Japan, who will be going to Hilo High School, beginning in Fall 2007.

Group Study Exchange Program: Rotary Club of Hilo Bay Membership Chair Carolyn Lundkvist is leading the Group Study Exchange team of four young Hawaii business people from Maui and Oahu to Denmark in October. In turn, a similar group from Denmark will be touring our islands and ending their visit at the District 5000 Conference to be scheduled May 23-26, 2008, at the Wailea Beach Marriott Resort & Spa, in Maui.

(D) Other News:

The 2007-08 Rotary Foundation Seminar

Special Guest: Meredith Burlew, The Rotary Foundation Humanitarian Grants Coordinator

WHEN: August 25, 2007, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

WHERE: The Honolulu Airport Hotel - 3401 N. Nimitz Hwy.

WHO: Club President & President Elect, Club Foundation Chair and committee members, International Svc Chair, Community Service Chair and anyone interested in learning more about TRF

COST: \$25.00 per person for handouts, morning refreshments & lunch ... to be paid at the door (cash or check only)

The Annual Program Fund ... Scholarships ...
PolioPlus District Simplified Grants ... NID's ... EREY ... DDF SHARE
The Permanent Fund ... Reading Foundation Reports
Foundation Alumni ... The Future of TRF ... Matching Grants
Raising Money for TRF ... Stewardship ... Promoting TRF

(E) General Information:

Membership is by invitation only.

Rotary Club of South Hilo meets Tuesday 11:45 a.m. at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel

Rotary Club of Hilo Bay meets Wednesday 6:45 a.m. at the Naniloa Volcanoes Resort

Rotary Club of Volcano meets Thursday 6:45 a.m. at Volcano House Restaurant

Rotary Club of Hilo meets Friday 11:45 a.m. at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel

Rotarians end their meetings with the 4-Way Test of the Things We Think, Say, or Do. Invented by Herbert Taylor in 1934 as a set of moral principles adopted to save a struggling business, the 4-Way Test will guide those who dare to use it for worthy objectives: choosing, winning, and keeping friends; getting along well with others; ensuring a happy home life; developing high ethical and moral standards; becoming successful in a chosen business or profession; and becoming a better citizen and better example for the next generation. Eloquently simple, stunning in its power, undeniable in its results, The Four-Way Test offers a fresh and positive vision in the midst of a world full of tension, confusion and uncertainty:

- (1) Is it the TRUTH?
- (2) Is it FAIR to all Concerned?
- (3) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- (4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

For more information: <http://www.rotary.org>

<http://district5000.clubwizard.com>