

(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 (theme of "Rotary Shares")
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

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

Rotary Club of Volcano – Don Hughes, President

August = **Membership and Extension Month** (recruiting, retention, starting new clubs)

(B) Community Service Projects:

ABCs Through Rotary School Supplies Drive: On Saturday July 28th, the Rotary Clubs of Hilo, South Hilo, Hilo Bay and Volcano joined forces at the Hilo downtown Long's Drugs Store, collecting school supplies and monetary donations for ABCs Through Rotary, a project designed to provide assistance to underprivileged children. Rotarians rallied for this cause for six hours and included presidents from all four East Hawai'i clubs. The successful event yielded 20 boxes of supplies and almost \$1,500 in cash and checks. Recipients of these donations included: The Office of Social Ministry, The Boys and Girls Club of Hilo, Volcano School of Arts and Sciences, and the Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawai'i.

American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association Conference: Some 90 rainwater harvesting enthusiasts, practitioners, and experts convened 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 presented information valuable to users, public health officials, academics, designers, installers, architects, builders, product vendors, students, planners, and water utility staff. All four East Hawai'i clubs financially supported the Water Catchment conference, which was held August 14-17, 2007 at the Kilauea Military Camp, in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. There was a Meet the Community Dinner at Kea'au High School, from 5:00-8:30 p.m. on August 16, that was open to the public, during which a Q&A took place with six panelists, all experts on rainwater harvesting or water quality treatment. Over 200 people attended.

Hands-On Optics (HOO) – is a workshop program targeted at middle-school teachers and students that is provided by the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO), and offered at the `Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i. Materials supplied by Phase I of the program consist of 3 modules, each containing 8-12 engaging activities with: (1) lasers and mirrors, (2) kaleidoscopes, (3) telescopes and lenses. The goals of the HOO program are:

- to create links between optics professionals and educators;
- to reach under-served middle-school students in science and technology;
- to engage students in collaborative learning and problem-solving activities;
- to increase science and technology and awareness of optics.

`Imiloa has two complete kits for the workshops, but through a Rotary Foundation District 5000 Simplified Grant of \$2,464 for the year 2006-2007, the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay (RCHB) was able to acquire for the Center two additional kits containing all the equipment and supplies needed to teach the HOO activities. These two new kits will be provided to workshop participants for use in their own schools, one to St. Joseph School in Hilo, and the other to Nawahiokalani`opu`u in Keaukaha. Next workshops take place on September 14-15.

(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 376 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 Presidential Membership Conference: Sharing the Magic of Rotary

Rotary International President (2007-08) Wilf Wilkinson invited clubs, districts, and Rotarians to a Presidential Membership Conference in San Jose on Friday, August 17 and Saturday, August 18, 2007. Over 620 Rotarians from California, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, Nevada and Idaho and beyond attended this outstanding event. Targeted to Rotary clubs, this conference focused on the need for change and practical ways to increase new membership, retain existing members, and extend Rotary through new clubs. Keynote speakers included RI President Wilf Wilkinson, Past RI Presidents Rick King and Cliff Dochterman, and Past RIBI President John Hockin, as well as many other outstanding speakers with experience in membership development. Speakers included non-Rotarians exploring changing community demographics and volunteering trends. The meeting also featured interactive roundtable discussion opportunities to exchange ideas and best practices. Four Hawai'i Rotarians attended this meeting, including Hilo Bay President Richard Crowe.

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.

(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>