



Vol. LI #12

• Website: www.hawaiikailions.org • Facebook/Instagram: Hawaii Kai Lions Club • Smugmug: hawaiikailions.smugmug.com/ •

The Voice of Hawaii Kai

Ka Leo O Hawaii Kai

Monthly Bulletin of the Hawaii Kai Lions Club



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hi all,

This is my last newsletter as the president of our club, and I must say that it has been a whirlwind year of learning what a president should be doing (and I'm still learning to this day). I wish to thank the Board for their support, the chairs of all the committees for coordinating their numerous projects, the new members for joining (the last induction being on May 2 for Rosemary Chong), and the entire club for continuing the tradition of the Lions motto: "We Serve". I especially wish to recognize Lions Frances Lum and Ken Nishibun for providing me with valuable guidance and mentoring throughout this year and years past. I could not have made it this far without their help. In closing, thank you again and please welcome our new president, Kendrick Chang, and his Board!

Lisa Ishibashi

Kaiser High School Earth Fest

Submitted by Silvia Ardila

On April 26th, Kaiser High School ("KHS") celebrated the 7th Annual Earth Fest. KHS showcased local food vendors, had family friendly activities, and the KHS feeder schools sold different items for fundraising.

Lions Club had the opportunity to set up a booth, where Lion Silvia Ardila made more than 50 animal balloons. The Lions' booth was next to the bouncing gym and many kids enjoyed the opportunity to have an animal balloon!

Also, we were able to sell a few Father's Day breakfast tickets.

Many Kaiser students (including Leo Gabriel Argotte) were kind enough to assist with set up and tear down of the booth, even in the rain!

2024 Kaiser High School Graduation



Hawaii Kai Lions assisting at Kaiser High School Project Grad.

Submitted by Lisa Ishibashi

On May 24, 2024, seven Hawaii Kai Lions assisted with Kaiser High School's Project Graduation, by processing over 100 students in the cafeteria, before they were shuttled onto buses for their last night as Kaiser students.

Two hundred sixty seven Kaiser High School seniors graduated that night; including 57 valedictorians, 93 honor graduates, and accumulating a graduation rate of 96%. Of note, Lion Silvia Ardila's son, Gabriel Argotte, also graduated with this class with several honors, including valedictorian. Way to go, Gabriel!

Representing the Hawaii Kai Lions Club, President Lion Yolisa Ishibashi was an invited guest and was honored to observe this joyous occasion. She was very grateful to be seated on the field with other dignitaries, since she also graduated from Kaiser in the first graduating class of 1974.

Lions participating in this event included Jeanne Alices, Silvia Ardilla, Ellsworth Fujii, Alvin Hayashibara, Yolisa Ishibashi, Eric Kimura, and Allen Umeda. Hawaii Kai Lion Sarah Overmeyer was also present and was the lead for Kaiser's PTSA Project Graduation. The Hawaii Kai Lions Club also provided its annual \$500.00 donation in support of Project Graduation earlier this spring.

2024 District 50 Convention Recap



Hawaii Kai Lions Club received the most awards at 2024 convention.

Submitted by Lisa Ishibashi

On April 26-27, 2024, eight Hawaii Kai Lions and one CIS attended the D50 Hawaii Lions Convention at the Ala Moana Hotel. The first day was filled with ceremony, starting with the St. Louis JROTC Color Guard, moving on to the convention rules, credentials, memorial service (which included our own Lion Stanley Ito), resolutions, and the Hawaii Lions Foundation's Parade of Checks (we donated \$300). The keynote speaker for the luncheon was ID Judge Anthony Paradiso, from New York, who provided insightful information about being a Lion.

The Awards Ceremony Dinner on the first night was filled with fun and awards! Hawaii Kai won six of the nine award applications submitted, with a seventh surprise award. The six awards were for Club Bulletin (1st place co-winner), LEOs Spotlight Lions Club, Stellar Club (2nd place, plus \$50 check), Global Cause Vision (2nd place for eyeglass recycling), Global Cause Childhood Cancer (3rd place for Valentine's Day cards for pediatric cancer patients), and Global Cause Environment (3rd place for rescue tubes). The seventh surprise award was the Bragging Rights Award for turning in the most award applications and included a \$50 check for the club. Great job everyone for the fantastic work you do for the community!

Also, this night was designated as a 60's – 70's costume party for that era, with some Lions dressed up as hippies. Our very own Lion Cynthia Chun looked like she was dressed up as Marlo Thomas of the "That Girl" television series and was voted by popular demand to be the queen for the night. Congratulations to Cynthia!

The second day was jam-packed with discussing and voting on the Constitution & Bylaws and Standing policies, and continued with nominations and elections for this coming fiscal year's district governor (DG), and 1st and 2nd vice district governors (VDG). As expected, Dr. Lori Inouye-Yamashita is our new DG, with Sean Benito as the 1st VDG, and Dr. Cedric Mitsui as the 2nd VDG. Congratulations to them and it will be great working with them in the coming fiscal year.

The second night was the DG Banquet, with Hawaii Kai Lion Ken Nishibun presiding as the emcee. The night was filled with merriment and good food, as well as the announcement of the Humanitarian Award, which is awarded to a non-Lion who goes above and beyond to help the community. This year's award went to Jennifer Karaca of Maui, Director of Common Ground Collective. After the devastation of the August 8th wildfires on Maui, she brought together several organizations to feed those who were displaced by the fires.

It was a great two-day D50 Hawaii Lions Convention event, with many of us looking forward to next year's convention. Hope to see you all then!

Sight Is Beautiful Awards



Lions Frances Lum, Marja Leivo, and Ken Nishibun with awardees.

Submitted by Frances Lum

As the school year neared its end, Koko Head and Hahaione Elementary Schools each held awards assemblies on May 24 and 29, 2024, respectively, to highlight their students' achievements throughout the year. Among the many recognitions was the Sight Is Beautiful Poster Contest winners. Sight Is Beautiful is a contest open to elementary school students from kindergarten to grade 6. The purpose of the contest is to encourage students to place a greater value on their ability to see the world around them, promoting vision, one of the international global causes of Lions.

The students were all abuzz when asked to close their eyes and imagine navigating in their own home without being able to see. We hope they tried it and found a new appreciation for their eyesight. Then, when the winners were announced, it got even louder as the students uproariously cheered for their classmates. Lions Ken Nishibun and Marja Leivo assisted by handing out the certificates and prizes while Lion Frances Lum called out the 16 winners' names from 123 entries (Grades 1 through 4) at Koko Head Elementary School. Lions Ken Nishibun, Yolisa Ishibashi, and Marja Leivo had the honor of awarding 20 winners from 92 entries (Grades 1 through 5) at Hahaione Elementary School.

Special Olympics Meet



Hawaii Kai Lions at Special Olympics Meet at Kaiser High School.

Submitted by Diane Taira

On Saturday, May 5, 2024, from 8am to 2:30 pm, the Hawaii Kai Lions Club assisted with the Shot Put event at the Special Olympics Regional Games held at Kaiser High School. Our members socialized with athletes and parents, cheered the athletes on, and accompanied the athletes from the shot put area to the awards tent, staying with them until awards were distributed.

Kalama Valley Storm Drain Marking



Hawaii Kai Lions installing storm drain medallions in Kalama Valley.

Submitted by Allen Umeda

A team of eight club members and friends spent Saturday morning, May 11, 2024 marking storm drains in Kalama Valley with medallions imprinted with messages to discourage polluting of the ocean through neighborhood storm drains. The markers remind people to avoid discarding litter or chemicals in storm drains as they lead directly to the ocean.

Tasks included cleaning the area to attach medallions at the storm drains, then affixing them to the storm drains with an adhesive. We recorded the locations of the 107 marked storm drains and reported them to the City and County of Honolulu Storm Water Quality Division, which supplied the materials for this project.

This was our club’s second pass through Kalama Valley, resulting in a total of 205 storm drains marked in this neighborhood.

Many thanks to the volunteers who joined this activity including Hawaii Kai Lions Club members, Susan Uehara, Tom Ono, Allen Umeda, Veronica Ong and CIS Ed, CIS Lyn Yee, CIS Tony Nakamura (Yolisa), soon to be new member Nicole Guess.



CIS Lyn Yee cleaning a section prior to placing storm drain marker.

Ronald McDonald’s House Meal



Lion Diane Taira, Marja Leivo, and Eric Kvick cooked dinner.

Submitted by Marja Leivo

Hawaii’s Ronald McDonald House is a community supported “home away from home” for families of seriously ill children who must travel to Oahu to receive care. The families who stay at the House come from the neighbor islands, Pacific Islands, or other areas. They are often under great stress and appreciate a home-cooked nourishing meal prepared by caring individuals and group volunteers in the community.

Lion Eric Kvick contacted their Volunteer Services Department and made arrangements for our Hawaii Kai Lions Club Pediatric Cancer Committee to provide a meal for the families. Lion Eric prepared pasta and two sauces, one with meat and the other vegetarian, and parmesan cheese. Lion Cynthia Chun provided tossed salad, and Lion Marja Leivo made garlic and non-garlic French bread. Lion Diane Taira made cupcakes and fruit salad which were to be served together with whipped cream. Two of the residents saw Lion Diane assemble the dessert and decided it looked too good to wait until after dinner to try it. They confirmed it was delicious.

As we were setting up and explaining the three-course meal we prepared, the staff told us how appreciative they and the families were for our support. Afterwards, we were given a tour of the House. We were all very impressed by how beautiful, and peaceful, a refuge it is for the families staying there with seriously ill children. It was also our pleasure to provide these families with at least one home cooked meal during their stay.



The residents loved Lion Diane Taira’s dessert.

Junior Police Officer Appreciation



Lions Lisa Ishibashi, Marja Leivo, and Ken Nishibun with JPO's.

Submitted by Ken Nishibun

JPOs at Koko Head and Hahaione Schools perform a vital safety function!

The Honolulu Police Department's Junior Police Officer Program (JPO) started in 1921 and has active student participation in over 100 schools. JPOs are trained in leadership, civic responsibility, and help ensure the safety of fellow students as they arrive in the morning and depart in the afternoon from school. Also, in many schools, the JPOs raise and lower the United States flag in the mornings and afternoons. These deserving JPOs are entrusted with great responsibilities (they must commit to early morning and afternoon duties), therefore they are expected to be responsible and reliable, maintain academic performance, and display exemplary behavior.

The Hawaii Kai Lions Club is proud to recognize the very critical, but sometimes overlooked service of our JPOs! The Hawaii Kai Lions Club Started the JPO Recognition Program many years ago when Lion Tommy Chun (son Darren, Assistant Police Chief), Lion Ken Nishibun (nephew Ryan, Assistant Police Chief), and former Lion Bob Kane (retired Assistant Police Chief) recognized the need to honor the hard work and dedication of student JPOs.

Lion Tom Jones has been a generous supporter from the very start, donating Gyotaku \$25 gift certificates (\$1,650 this year alone) to all JPO's and advisors. The Hawaii Kai Lions also purchased \$10 shave-ice certificates from Kokonuts in the Koko Marina Center (owner Sabina Yi donated 6 certificates) to add to each packet. Mahalo also goes to Lion Alvin Hayashibara who annually creates and prints all of the Certificates of Appreciation that are given to each JPO.

Presentations were made at the schools' award assemblies; May 24th at Koko Head, and May 29th at Hahaione. Participating in this event included Yolisa Ishibashi, Marja Leivo, Frances Lum, and Ken Nishibun. Principals Shannon "Cappy" Goo of Hahaione School and Jeff Shitaoka of Koko Head School expressed their sincere appreciation for the continued support of the Hawaii Kai Lions.

HI-5 Recycling Sorting



The finished work product of recycled goods.

Submitted by Frances Lum

Lions Marja Leivo, Diane Taira, and Frances Lum got a good work out doing squats while, at the same time, helping Koko Head Elementary School sweeten their coffers by sorting HI-5 containers. Lion Nancy Rocheleau came equipped with a stool, so she didn't have to do many squats. The recent rains made the job a little messier because the containers had filled with rain water. The humidity caused damp shirts. Despite the wetness all over, there was a great satisfaction in seeing the empty recycling cages. The job got done just minutes before the dozens of bags of plastic and glass bottles and aluminum cans were picked up by the recyclers.

May 21, 2024 was the last sorting of this school year. Watch for the next sorting date in three or four months.

Hahaione 5th Grade Exhibition

Submitted by Marja Leivo

On Thursday, April 25, 2024, from 4:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Hahaione Elementary School presented to the school community an exhibition created by their 5th grade students. Principal Shannon Goo welcomed the waiting crowd and gave Hawaii Kai Lions Club Member Marja Leivo a kukui nut lei for representing the club and then declared the Exhibition open.

When Lion Marja entered the cafeteria, she saw that the whole cafeteria had been transformed into an exhibition hall. There were rows of booths with tables containing posters, games, and materials that represented issues the 5th grade students were most concerned with. They had worked in small groups to create the exhibits at each booth and were prepared to talk about them. The main themes were: environmental protection, staying safe from sports injuries, controlling plastics and other pollution in the sea and on land, protecting native species, and invasive species control. They also showed awareness of limiting time on video games, and knowledge of robotics.

Lion Marja was impressed with this event and how hard the students must have worked to put it together. She was very happy that she went and felt the Hahaione Elementary School's 5th Grade Exhibition was a great success.

FUTURE EVENTS					
Date	Time	Event	Place	Attire	Project Chair
Thursday, 6/6	7:00-8:00pm	Membership Meeting Agenda: Breakfast Briefing	Koko Head Elementary School	Club Shirt	N/A
Thursday, 6/13	7:00-8:00pm	Board Meeting	Zoom	N/A	N/A
Sunday, 6/16	5:00-11:00am	Father's Day Breakfast	Kaiser High School	Work Shirt	Frances Lum
Thursday, 6/20	6:30-8:30pm	Membership Meeting Agenda: Aloha Party Potluck	Koko Head Elementary School	Club Shirt	Alvin Hayashibara
Sunday, 6/23	3:00pm (Visitation) 4:00pm (Service)	CIS Jackie Hayashibara Celebration of Life	Hosoi Mortuary	N/A	N/A
Saturday, 6/29	8:00-10:30am	Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up	Koko Head Elementary School	Work Shirt	Ells Fujii and Susan Uehara
Wednesday, 7/10	10:00am-12:00pm	Lion Richard Okamoto Service	Hosoi Mortuary	N/A	N/A

--

BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	DATE OF INDUCTION	Membership	
6/1 Les Muramaru		6/7/2007 Ron Goong	Active	53
6/2 Bill Kern			Student	0
6/3 CIS Patty Chun			Affiliate	5
6/6 Joseph Baumgartner			Associate	2
6/7 Kendrick Chang			At-Large	3
6/12 Marty Jorgenson			Privileged	0
6/14 CIS Lyn Yee				
6/19 Judge Tom Haia			Total	63
6/20 John Kratochvil				
6/21 Ellsworth Fujii				
6/28 CIS Fumiko Takahashi				

District 50 Region V, Zone 2		Hawaii Kai Lions Club Officers – 2023-2024			
Honolulu, HI – Chartered 4/9/1973		President IPP	Yolisa Ishibashi	Secretary Tail Twister	Cynthia Chun
Intl President	Dr. Patti Hill	1 st VP	Frances Lum	Directors	Maja Leivo
District Governor	CJ Kalopodes	2 nd VP	Ellsworth Fujii	Mem. Dir.	Marty Jorgensen
1 st VD Governor	Dr. Lori Yamashita	3 rd VP	Kendrick S. Chang	Bull. Ed.	Eric Kvik
2 nd VD Governor	Sean Benito	Treasurer	Silvia Ardila	Service Chair	Allen Umeda
Zone Chair	Frances Lum	Lion Tamer	Jeanne Alices	Program Coordinator	Kendrick S. Chang
Region 5 Zone 2			Tom Ono		Alvin Hayashibara
Zone II	David Iwana				Frances Lum
HLF Trustee					