



LEO LIONA

The Voice of District 50 Hawai'i Lions

Upcoming Cabinet Meetings

Sat Oct. 22, 2022 9 a.m.

Zoom Meeting

Sat Jan. 28, 2023. 9 a.m.

Winter Forum

Kilauea Military Camp, Island of Hawaii

Apr. 27 - 29, 2023

Cabinet Meeting & District Convention

Ala Moana Hotel

Club Charter Anniversaries

Aug. 27th

Mililani Lions Club - 1971

Aug. 29th

Moanalua Lions Club - 1961

Aug. 31st

Kamehameha Lions Club - 1948

Clubs Featured In This Issue

Hawaii Kai

Aloha Pono

Kaimuki High School Leo Club

District Governor's Message

Aloha District 50 - Hawaii Lions, Companions in Service (CIS) and Leos,

I MUA District 50. I MUA is the Hawaiian word to move forward. In the last two years, we have lived in Covid-19 lockdown, social distancing and "you're on mute."

Vaccinations and the removal of restrictions, signals a new normal of living with Covid-19 much like the flu.

Our District Goals for 2022-2023 is to increase the % of clubs reporting service, achieve a positive membership growth, train club officers and zone chairpersons and support our Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) and Hawaii Lions Foundation (HLF).

Mahalo to Lion Todd Kawamoto who for many years served as our Leo Liona editor.

Mahalo to new Leo Liona editor Lion Renee Ako for enabling Lion Todd Kawamoto to grow by serving in another D50 committee.

Mahalo to my home club the Koko Head Lions Club for their unwavering support.

Mahalo to Honorary District Governor ID Bob Lee and other PDGs for their great advice.

Mahalo to the Cabinet and Committees for not only serving but performing their very best.

Mahalo to CIS Joyce for being the champion for the non-Lion CIS who say "We Serve Too!"

Mahalo to my children and their CIS for living a Lions life and becoming members this July.

Mahalo to the D50 Lions for allowing me to serve as your District Governor.

I MUA District 50 because "Together We Can"

Lion Gary Nip

District Governor 2022-2023



2022-2023 District 50 Leadership

District Governor

Gary Nip

First Vice District Governor

C.J. Kalopodes

Second Vice District Governor

Lori Inouye-Yamashita

Immediate Past District

Governor

Mitch Tam

Cabinet Secretary

Jeff Ching

Cabinet Treasurer

Lester Nip

Sergeant at Arms

Sean Benito

International Director

Robert Lee

Past International Director

Maurice Kahawaii

Board of Governors

PDG Angie Haramoto,

Chairperson

PDG Robert Lee

PDG Blayne Hanagami

PDG Garrett Ozawa

IPDG Mitch Tam

DG Gary Nip

Submissions

Renee Ako, Editor

Please email submissions by Aug. 25,

2022 for the September issue:

d50leoliona2022.2023@gmail.com

D50 Photos

View photos of the
1st Quarter

Cabinet Meeting
and

D50 Club Activities



Now on our website!

www.hawaiiions.org



Congratulations!

International Director

2022-2024

Robert "Bob" Lee

&

Lion Pam



D50 Hawaii Lions Humanitarian Award

The District 50 Hawaii Lions Humanitarian Award is bestowed by the District Governor to a person having demonstrated humanitarian accomplishment above and beyond personal, professional and civic duties. Only Lions club members may nominate individuals for this award. Only non-Lions are eligible candidates.

[D50 Hawaii Lions Humanitarian Award Nomination Form](#)

Deadline: Tues. Jan. 31, 2023

Contact: Lion Dr. James Yamashita

99-638 Hoio Street

Aiea, Hawaii 96701

stay CONNECTED with D50 Lions

D50 Website

www.hawaiilions.org

Check it out! Our website has a new look and new features. Helpful tabs like Calendar, Resources, News and more! Timely information and lots of photos. There's still more to come!



D50 Facebook

www.facebook.com/hawaiilions

Connect easily with fellow D50 Lions.

I MUA District 50

Together We Can

Leo Liona Newsletter

Aloha Fellow Lions,

I am excited to be serving District 50 Lions as the editor of Leo Liona. Mahalo to Lion Todd Kawamoto who shared his time and talent for many years as the Leo Liona editor.



We have decided to publish the Leo Liona monthly. Please email your submissions by the 25th of each month.

This is your newsletter! Please submit articles, announcements or captioned photos. We want to share your accomplishments, achievements and upcoming activities with each other.

Mahalo,
Lion Renee Ako
d50leoliona2022.2023@gmail.com



Pamphlet Fundraiser

July 2022 - June 2023

Benefitting:

Hawaii Lions Foundation & Lions Leos L4L Clubs

- Discounts up to \$115 to restaurants and services.
- Cost to the public: \$10
- Initial order deadline: Fri, Sept. 30, 2022

1st VDG C.J. Kalopodes Jr., Chairperson
Lion Mark Despault, Creator & Coordinator

Hawaii Kai

Father's Day Breakfast Fundraiser

June 19, 2022

Submitted by Frances Lum



Billed as the **"Flagship of All Breakfast Fundraisers in Hawaii"** (and maybe the best), the Hawaii Kai Lions Club held its Father's Day Breakfast on June 19 after a two-year absence. This year, it was a pre-sale only, drive-thru pick-up breakfast due to the unavailability of the Kaiser High School cafeteria. The breakfast consisted of 2 scoops of fried rice, scrambled eggs, and link sausages. Although there were no pancakes, over 3,000 tickets were sold, with a total of about 2600 tickets redeemed and over 670 cars driving thru for pickup at the Kaiser High School parking lot. Over 30 members, CISs, and other family members directed the traffic, plated all the food, and handed out the breakfasts to bicyclists, walkers, and cars. It was an impressively smooth operation, especially considering that this was the first time doing a completely drive-thru affair.

The breakfast fundraiser also had great news media coverage on all 3 local stations, thanks to Public Relations chair, Lion Irwin Santos.

Because not everyone picked up their breakfast, the unclaimed food was donated to the Institute of Human Services.

A BIG MAHALO to breakfast fundraiser chairs Lions Alvin Hayashibara and Ken Nishibun and the Hawaii Kai Lions Ohana for all their work to make this fundraiser such a huge success. Thank you also to Lions everywhere and to the community for your generous support.

View the HKLC members hard at work:

[June 19th - Father's day Breakfast - Hawaii Kai Lions Club](#)

LCICon 2022

June 24 - 28, 2022

Article and photos by Lion Arlene Shimokawa, International Convention Chair

The 104th annual Lions Clubs International Convention (LCICon) was held on June 24 - 28, 2022. This was the first in person convention since the Covid-19 pandemic cancelled the event in 2020 and forced a virtual convention in 2021.



Friday June 23-24: District Governor Elect seminar. DG Gary Nip and CIS Joyce at the DG Celebration banquet.



Saturday June 25: Morning Parade of Nations (photo above), afternoon social with Illinois Lions (photo below) and evening concert with Smokey Robinson.



Sunday June 26: International Flag Ceremony, inspiring stories of Lion service and Campaign

100 ended on a high note exceeding the \$300 million goal (\$324.6M).

Notable Lions who have passed away were honored to include Hawaii's own PID Herb Watanabe.



Tuesday June 28: Lion Brian Sheehan elected as International President and Hawaii's own Lion Robert (Bob) Lee elected International Director for two years.



LCICon 2022 also included seminars, an Exhibit Hall and store of Lions merchandise.

The Hawaii group enjoyed great food, fun and fellowship. Hana Hou D50. Save the date and attend the in-person Lions Convention on July 7-11, 2023 in Boston Massachusetts.





D50 1st Quarter Cabinet Survey Results

Article by DG Gary Nip

At the Lions Summer Fun Event on Saturday July 23, 2022, a survey was conducted asking two questions. Attendees shared their suggestions on Post It notes. Here are the anonymous and unedited comments:

List items that District 50 does well that should be continued:

- A. "District website"
- B. "It's members!"
- C. "Commitment and enthusiasm of members"
- D. "Leadership Training"
- E. "Sight Is Beautiful Poster Contest"
- F. "College student and young professional Lions serving as D50 Committee chairs"
- G. "I like the Karaoke fun event planned (I am not a singer but very creative)😊"
- H. "Great communication responses from DG & D50 Sec."

Review DG Gary's email sharing feedback from attendees at the GAT's 4th Monday Zoom Meeting on July 25th.

List items that District 50 needs improvement:

- A. "Would appreciate knowing what's for meal for people on special diet"
- B. "Find a way to shorten Cabinet Meetings"
- C. "Some way to condense the reporting process"
- D. "Would like to receive soft copies of CRNs so I can read and take notes/comments before meeting (Maybe 4 days before)"
- E. "Invocation are a traditional ceremony. Do not remove from ceremonies"
- F. "Welcome young Lions"
- G. "Communication"
- H. "Set goal for club members to serve just 1 term as club president during their entire tenure as a club member (for purposes of growth)."
- I. "Website Use more clickable links not so much scrolling Add info for clubs" (Best attempt to read the underlined words that are not legible)

Learning From You:

How can we do a better job welcoming young Lions into our organization?

If you joined the Lions as a young adult (younger than 40 years), please share why you made the decision to join.

Your responses will help us prioritize our efforts into welcoming young Lions and will be shared in the September Leo Liona issue.

Example: DG Gary joined at age 22 years because his boss said so.

Email your responses to Renee Ako, editor by August 25th for our September issue.



Hawaii Lions Foundation

www.hawaiilionsfoundation.org

The purpose of the Foundation is to support the Lions Clubs of District 50 Hawaii in serving their local communities as they carry out essential sight, hearing and other humanitarian projects. The primary focus and major activity of HLF is the Lions Eye Bank of Hawaii (LEBH) & Makana Foundation. www.lebh.org



Despite COVID setbacks, LEBH & the Makana Foundation are returning to the critical work of tissue donation awareness and facilitating vision saving transplants throughout the community.

Your gift helps support their valuable efforts. Please mail your tax deductible donation to:

Hawaii Lions Foundation
405 N. Kuakini St., #801
Honolulu, HI. 96817

Fourth Monday

GAT's Best Practices with PDG Cecelia Izuo
Zoom Webinar @ 6:30 p.m.



Spotlight on the Hawaii Leos of District 50

Kaimuki High School

Submitted by Lion Holly Honbo &
Leo President Julian Fojas

The Kaimuki High School Leo Club was founded in 2015. It is sponsored by the Koko Head Lions Club. Lion Holly Honbo has been their advisor since the club's inception.

The Leos keep themselves busy with activities at Wilson Elementary School and Kahala Mall. They also assist their own school and participate in many of the Koko Head Lions' projects.

COVID provided a challenge for the club, however the Mo'ili'i Japanese Cemetery Beautification Project gave the Leos a safe event that supported social and environmental outlets.



Club President Julian Fojas has participated in the cemetery cleanups for the past two years and says, "COVID makes you think you're alone, but we work as one big ohana and strive to make a difference in our community."

*We are showcasing one Leo Club in each issue.
Contact [Renee Ako](#), editor to feature your club.*



Global Membership Team

August 2022

Submitted by GMT Coordinator Lion Tony Tassillio & DG Gary Nip

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION:

Here are some reasons why Lions leave:

- Poor Club Leadership
- Lack of proper screening for quality members
- Improper induction ceremony
- Inadequate orientation of the new member
- Non-fulfillment of sponsor's responsibilities
- Insufficient attention to members (new & old)
- Lack of friendship or fellowship
- Misjudgment in committee appointments and improper use of talents
- No meaningful club projects
- Clubs do not measure up to expectations
- Boring meetings - too formal and inflexible
- Wrong meeting time and/or place

Sound familiar? If we fix these concerns, there is less chance of Lions leaving. Easier to retain than to recruit.

Survey your members, resolve any issues and keep members happy so they don't leave our organization.

Do an annual survey of your members. On www.lionsclubs.org search for "Club Quality Initiative" and you will find great questions to survey your club. You can survey your club in a single session 2 hours or less or a half day workshop of 4 hours or more or spend 30 minutes at several regularly scheduled meetings.

At the first regularly scheduled meeting you could ask the following two questions:

1. What did the Club do well that should be continued?
2. What needs improvement? Poll members on which items needing improvement is the most important.

Focus on the most important ones first or break out into teams to brainstorm solutions to all the concerns. At a second meeting decide as a Club which actions need to be taken, assign the Lion responsible and when it is to be completed. An example could be meetings are too long and boring.

The following are approved actions:

Action 1: Have an agenda.

Who is responsible: President/Secretary.

When: Every meeting.

Action 2: Start & end meetings on time per agenda.

Who is responsible: President.

When: Every meeting.

Action 3: Have a guest speaker.

Who is responsible: Program chair or VP.

When: 1st meeting of the month.



District Governor Maika'i Coin

Article and photos by DG Gary Nip

District Governor (DG) Gary Nip has a limited special DG Maika'i (Job Well Done) coin to recognize those who go beyond.

Here are some of the recipients and their outstanding achievements:



Lion Ray Jabanski - Pearl City Lions Club

for being the remaining Charter member and for celebrating his 90th birthday at the 5/14/22 Charter celebration night.



Lion Guy Inouye - Pearl City Lions Club

for leading his club back to an in-person Charter celebration night on 5/14/22.



Lion Chance Na'auao-Ota - Hawaii Cyber Lions Club

On 5/30/22 President Bixby Ho said "he literally hit the ground running with attending service projects before he started and recently took the lead on a service project and successfully ran it flawlessly."



Lion Abe Wong - Lions Club of Honolulu

On 6/4/22 Kyle Laconsay said "Lion Abe is at all of LCH Service Projects. He is always reliable and efficient, and his work ethic is detailed and meticulous."



Lion Eddie Lisuzzo - Moanalua Lions Club

On 6/4/22 Lion Kathy Higa said "One of our newest members, Eddie is currently working on the mainland and serving the community where he lives and will take on a leadership role as Vice-President in the upcoming Lion Year"



Lion Kevin Kimura - Kalakaua Lions Club

Awarded on 6/4/22 for serving as Club President and for reviving his club.

Read more stories in the next Leo Liona.

Aloha Pono

Aloha Pono Lions Club: A Small Club with a Big Heart

Submitted by Aileen Deese

Aloha Pono Lions Club has only 14 members right now but we sure are helping the community with our projects. We have to be innovative because we are small in number and many members are elderly or immunocompromised so we do not do too many indoor or group projects unless they are outdoors and safe.



Projects done recently by club members are:

- Ordering and donating KN95 masks and at-home covid tests for friends, family and whoever needs face masks and tests.
- Donating home cooked meals or bentos to community members, friends and/or family members who have lost their jobs, who are low on funds, who are ill, and to those who need cheering up at this time.
- Friendly phone calls, letters or cards to kupuna and other friends who are lonely.
- Volunteering at Kapiolani Medical Center Pediatric Family Room. Replenish supplies, prepare craft kits, check on caregivers, sanitize room.
- Volunteering and giving consultation to staff of Keiki Circle of Love on projects, public relations and fundraising. Helping with press releases and media efforts.
- Volunteering with Volcano Friends Feeding Friends agency on Big Island. Helping with making meals, serving hot meals, distributing boxes of food.
- Volunteering with Hawaii Island Food Basket agency (similar to Oahu FoodBank.) Helping with food distribution 3 hours per month to needy families in areas of Pahala, Mountain View and Volcano.
- Visiting members who are elderly living at home and in retirement homes to provide social interaction they miss during the pandemic.
- Assisting elderly in picking up books at the library.
- Feeding homeless cats in neighborhoods, in public parks and volunteering with Kat Charities which is a non-profit that unites children with disabilities and animals with

continued on page 11

homeless cats, get adopted and fixed, microchips and vaccinates cats.

- Recycling bottles, cans, newspapers.
- Writing pen pal letters to elementary school children.
- New members started a new project of serving lunch or snacks to physically or mentally challenged residents at Fern Street apartments after every monthly club meeting.
- Donating clothing such as aloha shirts, t-shirts, socks, and underwear and personal hygiene products such as soaps, shampoos, toothpaste, toothbrushes sanitary napkins or Poise pads for men and women at low income housing, domestic violence shelters, and Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace Outreach.
- Volunteering weekly at Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace Outreach and Planned Parenthood.
- Volunteering with RSVP agency with monthly newsletters.
- Volunteering to walk friend's dog, refinish furniture.



- Donating to YWCA Dress for Success Program with clothing and shoes for women returning to work force.
- Donating handmade greeting cards to pediatric cancer patients, their families and caregivers.
- Preparing and serving free meals to IHS homeless community. We even decorated the bags for the meals with cheery artwork.
- Providing free exercise classes to seniors at Lanakila Center
- Providing free yard services to adults with disabilities
- Collecting books and magazines to distribute to senior citizens
- Donating recycled newspapers to use as puppy pads for neighbors with low income.
- Volunteering as exercise buddy for friend with diabetes to encourage walking to improve her diabetes.
- Volunteering on Big Island with Volcano Community Association, County of Hawaii Resiliency Team, Puna Strong Cohorts, Big Island Conservation and Development Council.
- Making and collecting lei for Memorial Day at Punchbowl Cemetery.
- Helping friends with charging phones and iPads.

continued on page 12

- Helping friends to transport them to doctor appointments.
- Making gifts of painted rocks to donate to children and adults who need cheering up.



Aloha Pono Lions

Club is always ready, willing and able to help other clubs with their larger service projects or fundraisers if our help is needed.

Doppelganger? Have you heard of the word?

Submitted by Lion Jeff Ching



According to vocabulary.com the definition of Doppelganger is: Someone who looks spookily like you but isn't a twin, is a doppelganger.

We've all done a double take when mistaking a random person on the street for someone we know or know of, But does everyone have a doppelganger? There's a fairly decent chance of it, thanks to the limited number of genes that influence facial features.

"There is only so much genetic diversity to go around," said Michael Sheehan, an assistant professor of neurobiology and behavior at Cornell University, who routinely studies appearance variations and genetics in species such as paper wasps and house mice. "If you shuffle that deck of cards so many times, at some point, you get the same hand dealt to you twice."

There's a "huge number of genes that contribute to things like facial structure and, of course, hair, eye, and skin color, which are all highly variable," said Dr. Arthur Beaudet, a professor of molecular and human genetics at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

It turns out, there's a scientific reason for why someone you've never met could look uncannily similar to you: Any two people taken at random are going to share about 99.5 percent of their gene sequence, according to Joseph McInerney, executive vice president of the American Society of Human Genetics. Of that remaining half a percent, there are 16 million base pairs of DNA, which is where you get "an enormous amount of individual variation"—but that's still only half a percent of an entire human being's genome and only one source of individual differences.

At Saturday's Cabinet meeting did you take a double take? Be honest you did right..... Just for the record Lion Gavin is in the right picture with Lion Jeff in the left picture.

Spotlight on Lion Gary Nip



District Governor Gary Nip joined the Koko Head Lions Club in 1975. He was sponsored by Lion Larry Lim. Lion Gary was born and raised in Honolulu. He graduated from St. Louis School in 1971 and the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 1974. He has been married to CIS Joyce for 44 years. Together they have three children (Lion Justin & CIS Lion Kendra, Lion Jasmine & CIS Lion Thomas Palmer, Lion Jayson) and three granddaughters.

Throughout Lion Gary's career he has served as an architect, instructor and director with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He continued to dedicate his life to serving others as a coach and general manager of his children's sports teams. Within the Lions organization, Lion Gary has assumed many responsibilities and was most recently elected the 2022-2023 District Governor. He is a recipient of numerous awards, most notably *Koko Head Lions Club's Lion of the Year, 2015; D50 Stellar Club Award & LCI Excellence Award, 2018 & 2019 and International President's Certificate of Appreciation, 2019 & 2020.*

DG Gary says, "My happiest moment in my 47 years as a Lion was when my three children became Lions on July 23, 2022 at my first Cabinet Meeting. My proudest moment was when a mother thanked me for saving her child's eyesight at a vision screening project."

Cookbook Fundraiser

A fundraiser to benefit D50 Lions

Submit your recipes to
DG Gary's CIS Joyce

Deadline: Sat. August 20, 2022



- Did you know that District 50 has a Public Relations Committee? What does this mean for your club?
- Do you need guidance on how to publicize your service project, event, fundraiser, or to create awareness of Lionism to encourage new member recruitment?

Check out Lion Irwin's bi-monthly **"The Learning Series"**. Here you will find step through tips on how to develop and engage publicity basics. The first subject is *"Facebook Basics (Make an Account & Create a Club Page)."*

Visit hawaiilions.org/guide-to-publicize

Lion Irwin Santos
Public Relations Chair