



# 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

**Sep. 30th**

Lions Club of Honolulu - 1926

## Clubs Featured in this Issue

Hawaii Kai  
Kapolei City  
Hawaii Filipino

## Kindness matters.

At home and around the world

## District Governor's Message



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

***Please join us for a District 50+ Project.***

We will be working jointly with Kiwanis and Rotary clubs at a Food Drive to benefit the Hawaii Food Bank.



**When:** Friday September 23, 2022 which is designated nationally as "Hunger Action Day"

**Time:** 11am to 1pm

**Where:** Hawaii State Capitol on South Beretania Street

**Attire:** Lions yellow vests

**What to bring:** empty "Xerox" boxes (or similar sized boxes) & hand-held fish nets

**RSVP:** Hunger Chair Lion Ellsworth Fujii

Background: Leadership from the service organizations [Kiwanis International](#), [Lions Clubs International](#), [Optimist International](#), and [Rotary International](#) have encouraged their clubs and youth programs around the world to work together on projects during one week as part of a joint initiative dubbed Celebrate Community. This is the second year to Celebrate Community.

***I MUA District 50 because "Together We Can"***

**Lion Gary Nip**

**District Governor 2022-2023**

PS: At the time of this post, efforts are underway to have similar food drives on neighbor islands.

## 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 Ogawa

IPDG Mitch Tam

DG Gary Nip

## Submissions

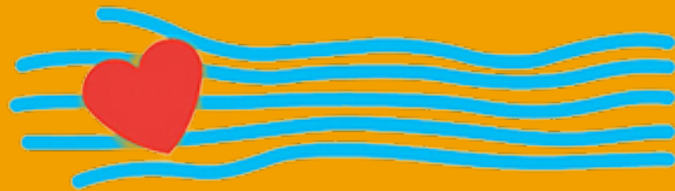
Renee Ako, Editor

Please email submissions for the October issue by Sept 25, 2022 to: [d50leoliona2022.2023@gmail.com](mailto:d50leoliona2022.2023@gmail.com)

## Hawaii Lions Foundation

[www.hawaiiionsfoundation.org](http://www.hawaiiionsfoundation.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.



# give aloha

Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program

Hawaii Lions Foundation is participating in Give Aloha, Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program. This program honors Foodland's founder, Maurice J. "Sully" Sullivan, and continues his legacy of giving back to the community.

### September 1 - 30, 2022

### Hawaii Lions Foundation Code:

# 78520

Donate up to \$249 to Hawaii Lions Foundation using your Maika'i card and Foodland will match a portion of your gift.



## Learning From You:

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

From the August 2022 issue:

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

Responses:

- **DG Gary Nip** (Koko Head): I joined at age 22 years because my boss said so, but no regrets. The Club became my second ohana and I love helping others.
- **Lion John Gephart** (Pearl City): I joined when I was 33 years old. I was opening a new business in Pearl City and I wanted to do community service in the area.
- **Lion Wendell Hosea** (Mana Loa-Nimitz): I joined the Lions at 29 years old to enjoy long time friendships. I have been energized by the experiences.
- **PDG Chris Tamura** (Pearl City): I joined the Pearl City Lions Club when I was 28 years old. I was working for a national CPA Firm and one of the career objectives was to join a civic organization. At that time, the Pearl City Club put on a large community carnival with EK Fernandez rides and many community food booths. Growing up as a kid in Pearl City, I remembered this and wanted to be a part of this organization that brought the Pearl City community together and raised money for worthy causes.
- **Lion Gavin Hall** (Koko Head): I joined when I was 28 years old. In college, I had been an

active member of the Accounting Club and a President of the Entrepreneur Rotoract Club. I was again looking to get involved and my decision was between the Toastmasters to improve my speaking ability or the Lions to serve my community. I decided on the Lions. Why Lions Club? I had been helping sell huli-huli chicken tickets since I had been knee high to my grampa and was well aware of the work they performed with local schools, such as the Vision and Hearing Screenings and Peace Poster or Sight is Beautiful poster contests. (I'm not sure which I participated in as a child.). I was looking to make my community a better place, and Lions had been the most visible Community Service Organization in my life.

- **Lion Anastasia Drgos** (Aloha Pono): I was walking my dog one day and met Lion Denise Werle. Lion Denise invited me over to an Aloha Pono Lions Club meeting she was hosting at her home. Denise was so lovely. She told me about the Lions and Aloha Pono Lions specifically. I have always done outreach and community work and I welcomed the opportunity to be of service to our community if I joined the Aloha Pono Lions Club. Denise shared so much and I jumped at the chance to become a Lion.



## Global Action Team

September 2022

### Lion David Iwana

#### Global Leadership Team Coordinator

One of the benefits of being a Lion is the FREE leadership training available.

1. <https://www.lionsclubs.org/> After logging in, go to LEARN which is the Lions Learning Center where you can take courses on-line at your convenience. Courses include Conflict Resolution, Decision Making, Effective Listening, Goal Setting, Managing Change, Meeting Management, Public Speaking, Time Management and many more. There are also courses on Club President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
2. <https://lionsuniversity.org> Earn Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate degrees each requiring completion of 10 required courses, at least 5 elective classes and specific leadership experiences. After each course a simple on-line test confirms learning.

### Lion Tony Tassilio

#### Global Membership Team Coordinator

At the Best Practice Zoom meeting held on August 22, FVDG C.J. Kalopodes facilitated a great discussion on membership. Suggestions included "Just Ask" prospective members to come to your next project and then to join the "fun" by becoming a member. After they sign on as a new member, get them involved with club meetings and activities. Make them feel comfortable. Introduce them to all members. Listen to their ideas on service projects.

Please mark your calendars for the Best Practice Zoom meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Open to all Lions.

### Lion Dr. Cedric Mitsui

#### Global Service Team Coordinator

Special Olympics Summer State Games at UH Manoa resumed in June 2022 and is scheduled annually. District 50 could not support in 2022 but was asked if we could in the future. Lion Michael Laconsay (Lions Club of Honolulu) has agreed to be the Chair of the Special Olympics Ad-hoc Committee. The proposal is NOT to do vision screening but to have Lions volunteer on one Saturday to assist with the games. Lions would wear their club work shirt. Lions Clubs can count this as a new community service event. More information to follow.



*Together We Can*

WE LIVE, WE GIVE AND WE SERVE AS ONE.

Because we know that together we are more. Together, there are no limits.

## Spotlight on Lion Chris J. Kalopodes



First Vice District Governor Chris J. (C.J.) Kalopodes was born on January 28, 1944, in Honolulu to Parents Helen (Okinawan) and Chris J. (Greek, Irish) at Tripler Hospital

("free baby"). He lived in Damon Track (the area between Nimitz Highway and the old Honolulu International Airport terminal on Lagoon Drive) until he was 10 years old and moved to Kaneohe where he attended Benjamin Parker School and Castle High School (1962).

He has worked in the construction industry from the age of eighteen, as an Ironworker for ten years and started his own construction company at the age of 28 years.

He joined the Kaneohe Jaycees when he was 24 years old and became their President at the age of twenty seven. Later he joined the Honolulu Jaycees and was the 50th State Fair Chairperson in 1980, overseeing over 400 workers and committee persons. In 1988 he

joined the Kahaluu Lions Club and became President in three years. At the same time, Lion C.J. became a Board Member for the Kahaluu Key Project and later President. In 1999, Barbara Jean Grace became Barbara Jean (B.J.) Kalopodes. Lion C.J.'s family includes five adult children, nine grandchildren, and "two acquired greats".

After moving to Kaneohe in 2000, Lion C.J. joined the Kaneohe Lions and became President within three years. His wife B.J., joined the Lions after following him around and helping with projects for 13 years.

FVDG C.J. has received many awards and honors over the years including Lion of the Year, Secretary of the Year, achievement awards, and many certificates from the Lions and the community. He says, "My greatest award is the Melvin Jones Fellow award which I am very proud of. Lions have taught me a lot over the years and I am still learning. Being a District Governor will be the greatest highlight of my Lions career and to serve the Lion members of Hawaii and the world."

*Next month: Spotlight on SVDG Lori Inouye-Yamashita.*

### Kuhio Lions Club of Honolulu

Sept. 24, 2022 6:00-9:00 p.m.  
Ala Wai Golf Course Club House

#### Spanish Tapas & Wine Pairing

\$60 presale \$70 at the door  
Food & Wine Pairings by  
Certified Sommelier Lion Liane Fu



RSVP by Sept. 18th  
Contact: [kuhio@kuhiolions.com](mailto:kuhio@kuhiolions.com)





# District Governor Maika'i Coin

Article and photos by Lion 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 June Ching - Waikiki 2000 Lions Club

On 6/5/22 President Jackie Cabebe said "June has been our Secretary and newsletter editor for as long as I can remember; without her we

would not be W2K."

### Lion Virginia Padayhag - Leeward Oahu Lions Club

On 6/8/22 Lion President Erica May nominated Lion Virginia to receive the award because of "her hard work and dedication to our club. She has been a great secretary."



### Lion Joyce Pang - Chinatown Lions Club

On 6/9/22 Lion President James Logue noted "1VP Lion Joyce Pang worked hard to develop a fantastic new partnership between the Chinatown Lions Club and Kauluwela Elementary School."



### Lion Irwin Santos - Kamehameha Lions Club

Awarded on 6/14/22 for major reconstruction of the D50 website.



### CIS Carol Kuwaye - Waiakea Lions Club

Awarded on 6/18/22 for her support to Lions at meetings, projects and the 2022 District Convention in Kona.



### Lion Arlene Shimokawa - Kapahulu-Moiliili Lions Club

### PDG Ron Fruit - Illinois Lions Club



Awarded on 6/25/22 for outstanding coordination of the annual Illinois and Hawaii Lions reunion held at the International Convention in Montreal Canada.



**The Fourth Monday**  
 GAT's Best Practices with PDG Cecelia Izuo

Zoom Webinar  
 Mon, Sept. 26th @ 6:30 p.m.

Tour of the redesigned D50 Website  
 Tips from Club Bulletin Editors  
 Service opportunities by GST Lion Dr. Cedric Mitsui

Read more stories in the next Leo Liona

# Hawaii Kai

## Hahaione Elementary School Office Gets a Major Makeover

August 2, 2022

Submitted by Lion Frances Lum



Mail cubbies for faculty & staff

On August 2<sup>nd</sup> Hahaione Elementary School students, parents, teachers, and staff returned

to their familiar school, only to be greeted by a brand-new, ultra-functional front office that was professionally done thanks to the partnership of the Hahaione PTSA, the Hawaii Kai Lions Club, Quality Carpentry and Painting, LLC, and In Line Flooring, Inc.



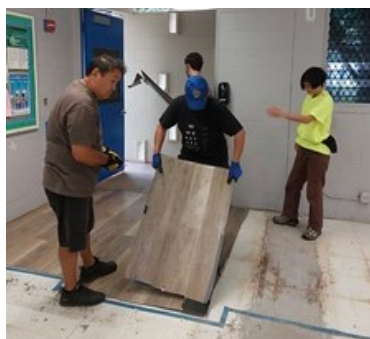
Lions Eric & Ken building counters and cabinets.

this improbable dream to reality especially with soaring material costs and supply chain issues -- the answer was a partnership. The PTSA provided the bulk of the funds. The Lions Club provided the balance of the funding, manpower, and finish-carpentry expertise thru its member Eric Kvick, owner of Quality Carpentry and Painting, LLC. New laminated flooring and installation was generously donated by In Line Flooring Inc. and its President, Hawaii Kai resident Taryn Miyamoto.

The office staff, along with a handful of parents, also stepped up by spending a day adding a fresh coat of paint to the office space. Although this project ended up being more expensive and taking longer than first envisioned, the dramatic result spoke for itself.



Lions Bill & Ells carrying in part of the counter and cabinet.



Flooring removal with Lions Tom, Ells & Frances

It was almost a year ago since the Lions and Principal Shannon Goo first discussed the possibility of replacing a worn-out, outdated, unstable, and less than optimum work space. The question was how to bring

Principal Goo was blown-away by the results; "Through this high-quality partnership, our front office received an amazing renovation. The hard-working Hawaii Kai Lions Club members created a personalized cabinet/counter/drawer system with each system

Continued on page 8

handcrafted and custom-built into our unique office space. Projects such as this has taught our school that the value of service is very strong in our community and our students have great role models of compassion!"



Lions Eric, Bill & Ken unloading the truck.

P T S A C o - President Greta

Gallardo was also overjoyed with the results, saying, "We are forever grateful for the hard work the Lion's Club has put in to make our school office something we are now so proud

of. It looks absolutely beautiful! The amount of time and energy that the Lion's club has spent on this project goes above and beyond what I ever expected of them.... This project has been such a gift for our school and the timing of it finishing just before the school year begins is incredible!"

The Hawaii Kai Lions Club is a dedicated group of fifty-three service-minded volunteers who identify critical community needs, then work to raise funds and manpower to fulfill those needs. The club is currently recruiting new members; if you would like to find satisfaction in participating in such community projects, please contact our membership chair at hawaiiikaimembership@gmail.com.

## Kapolei City

### Kapolei City Lions Volunteer at the Friends of the Library Kapolei Book Sale

August 13, 2022

Submitted by Lion Puna Noguchi

Our Kapolei City Lions, Friends of the Library members, and Kapolei High School students volunteered at the Friends of the Library Kapolei Book Sale on August 13, 2022 from 9:00 am - 1:00 p.m.



Lions Louise A., Ed R., Elaine L., Puna N.

We unpacked about 60 cases of books and audios; restocked items as they sold; and repacked all unsold books and audios. There were over 150 people who attended the books sale, and about 400 books and audios were sold. The book sale made over \$700.00, and part of the money will be used to buy a power washer! Our Kapolei Lions were happy to serve at the Kapolei Public Library. While there, our Kapolei Lions Club also collected used eyeglasses. It was a fun-filled event! Our Kapolei City Lions were happy to go out into our community and serve again! Imua!



Lions Louise A., Ed R., Paul B., Puna N.



## Hawaii Filipino

### Meet Our Newest Lions Club in District 50

Submitted by Lion President Grace Manipol-Larson

My name is Grace Manipol-Larson of Hilo, Hawaii. I am the President of the newly-launched Hawaii Filipino Lions Club.

First and foremost, I would like to invite everyone to join us to our Induction of Officers on October 1, 2022 @ 5:30-9:00 pm at Nani Mau Garden and Restaurant at 421 Makalika St., Hilo, Hawaii. Suggested donation for dinner will be \$55.00 per person. There will be a silent auction and a lot of dancing.

We also have available advertisement full pages for only \$150.00 for our souvenir book. Deadline for ad submission is on September 14, 2022 at 5pm.

On the other hand, as per our club's history, it was three days after the 86th Annual District convention in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, when I was motivated by the words of then DG Mitch Tam to start build the Filipino Lions Club. I sent messages to my friends on Facebook Messenger. I asked them if they are interested to be Founding Leaders of a new Lions Club that embrace the Filipino culture. The reply was overwhelming. In the next few days I believe I sent out more than one hundred Facebook messages and follow up emails with an application form. I personally recruited more than half of the original founding members of the club. Guiding Lion Melissa Chong was very helpful, too.

Our other goals for the club aside from the standard mission statement of the Lions Club International, are the following:

1. Be able to build a Filipino Community Center in the Big Island;
2. To be able to help some graduating high school students who have academic excellence but have financial difficulties to pursue their college degree;
3. To give mortuary fund (abuloy) of \$200.00 to the bereaved family of a Lion member;
4. To promote "bayanihan" extend some help to our fellow Lion Club members when they need them;
5. To help fundraise for Lion Club members whose family experience calamities in the Philippines.

So, what are you waiting for? Please join us to spread the Lionism and bayanihan spirit and have fun doing community services together. Hope to see you at the party in October 1st in Hilo!

Mabuhay and Aloha!

**I MUA District 50**  
*Together We Can*