



Prexy's Message

Aloha Fellow Lions, CIS and Friends,

I hope that Santa was good to all of you and that you had a nice Christmas.

We will be greeting 2023 in two days. Wow, how time seems to be flying by so fast.

Some of the things that the Waiakea Lion Club did during the month of December were:

- Vision Screening on December 1 and 2 at Hilo Intermediate School. Lions Melvin Kunimoto, PDG George Kodani, Clement Chang, Eugene Lyman, Cyrus Wilson and Wayne Kuwaye tested the vision of 370 students.
- Also on December 1, Lion Wayne and CIS Carol Kuwaye attended an evaluation meeting for the Hilo Christmas Light Parade and a planning meeting for the Christmas Lights in the Liliuokalani Garden.
- Food Basket food packing was done on December 7 and 8. Lions Eugene Lyman, Clement Chang, Melvin Kunimoto and Wayne Kuwaye packed food items into 1260 boxes on to 36 pallets. It was a good workout to work off the feast of Thanksgiving.
- A box of used eyeglasses was collected from the Hilo Airport manager's office by Lion Wayne Kuwaye.
- Salvation Army bell ringing was held on December 9 and 10 at Walmart. Lions Melvin Kunimoto, Clement Chang, Pat Naughton, Kellcey Ah Yo-Ribao, James Miyake, Wayne Kuwaye, Kenneth Nakagawa, Kevin Ono and Hope Chu Hing were there receiving donations from many generous



Shoppers and gave out candy to many who stopped by to add money to the kettles. Special thanks to Lion Kenneth Nakagawa for bringing the candies that were given out.

- Christmas Lights in the Park at Liliuokalani Garden was held on December 23 and 24. Candies and Hot Cocoa were given to over a thousand people who came to admire the beautiful light display in the park. Lion Wayne and CIS Carol Kuwaye represented the Waiakea Lions Club.
- Potluck Christmas social and meeting was held on December 20 in the breezeway at Kuwaye Trucking. Lions Donald Yoshina, Eugene Lyman, Kenneth Uemura, Patrick Ho, and PDG George Kodani were recognized for 45 years of service, Lion Kenneth Nakagawa was recognizes for 40 years of service, Lion Wayne Kuwaye was recognized for 35 years of service, Lion Bob Kawakone was recognized for 25 years of service and Lion Sam Reynolds was recognized for 15 years of service. Special MAHALO to ZC Diane Kent for attending (and winning big-time at Bingo).

Keiki Christmas Drive-Through

Keiki Christmas for the foster children drive-through event was held on December 18 at Big Island Toyota. About 187 foster children and their families were given presents and a mini-bento along with a gift of food items for the families.

Although the actual drive-through was on December 18, there was a lot of planning and preparation for this event. Thank you to Lions Sean Valencia, Amy Matsui, Kayleen Kameda-Hunt, Melvin Kunimoto, Thelma Merino-Young, Pat Naughton, Wayne Kuwaye, CIS Carol Kuwaye, CIS Ken (WD) Hunt, Waiakea High School Leos Taylor, Isabella and Gavin, and Lion Sean's sons Aiden and Dylan Valencia for making Christmas a merry event for these foster children and their families.



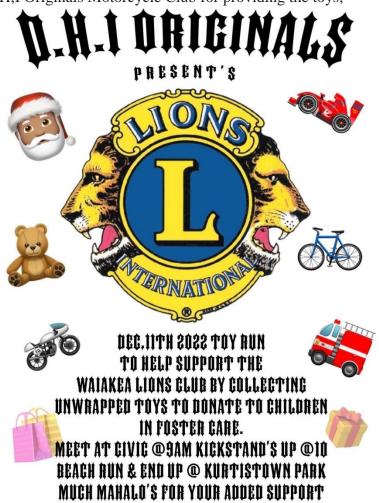
Mahalo Big Island Toyota



Lions Mel Kunimoto, Tony Tassillio, Pat Naughton and Lion Santa (Cyrus Wilson), and Lion Sean Valencia's (photographer) sons Aiden and Dylan



- Special thanks to Lion Kurt Williams and Big Island Toyota for allowing the Waiakea Lions Club to use their facility to store the presents and hold the event;
- to Lion Kenneth Nakagawa for getting the candies that were given out,
- to Lions Tony, Joy, Leilani and John of the Hawaii Lions Unlimited Lions Club for wrapping the presents and getting the boxes,
- to Project Linus for providing the blankets,
- to Toys for Tots and D.H,I Originals Motorcycle Club for providing the toys,



- the Food Basket for providing food items for the family gifts,
- Automotive Supply Center, B&B Insurance, Power Generation Services, Hawaii Petroleum and Wally Oki for their financial support and
- Julie and Chastytie Lopes for helping CIS Carol and the mystery generous couple for three stockings that each foster child received.
- Also, thank you to whoever contributed to this event that may have been missed.



Coming up in January 2023 are:

- ➤ Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, January 3.
- Food Basket packings on January 4, 5 and 9.
- ➤ Used eyeglasses cleaning and packing on January 14, 9:00 AM in the breezeway at Kuwaye Trucking...
- ➤ General Membership on January 17 in the breezeway at Kuwaye Trucking.
- ➤ Vision Screening at Paauilo Elementary and Intermediate School on January 20, at Honokaa Elementary School on January 24, and Kahakai Elementary School in Kona on January 30 and 31.
- ➤ KMC Winter Forum at KMC on January 27, 28 and 29.

Food Basket packing will be held on the first Wednesday, the Thursday following that Wednesday and the following Monday of every month.

Thought of the month, ALWAYS LIVE ALOHA!

Please have a Happy, Safe and Healthy New Year and for years to come!!!

Lion President Wayne Kuwaye

January Lions Birthdays and Anniversaries

<u>Birthdays</u>

Richard Kodani 1/16



Club Anniversaries

Abe Kubo 2004 Debbie Shirai 2021

Bulletin Deadline for the February 2023 Issue is December 28.

Please e-mail copy and pictures to Lion Pat at $\underline{patrick_naughton@hotmail.com}$.

Remember, GM is held at Kuwaye Trucking Breezeway

Let your dreams take flight in the new year!

Happy New Year!