President Steve Morgan presented our Four Way Plaque and thanked Andrew Robbins, Executive Director and CEO of the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transit for a very informative presentation on the progress of the Honolulu Rail Transit Project which will be the first in America with a fully automated driverless urban light metro system.

PP/PE Carol Riley welcomed visiting Rotarians from out of State after our rousing welcome song led by PDG Phil Sammer. They are: John Dracup from the RC of Santa Monica CA, Junsuke Sugahara from the RC of North Fukui Japan, and Jim Conaway from the RC of Tustin-Santa Ana.

Our team had a very successful day manning the information booth for Children’s Youth day at the Capitol. We had eleven volunteers from our club answering myriads of questions for directions ATM’s, first aid, concert stages, activity booths etc. We provided hundreds of goodie bags to families and kids. Thanks to Paul McGillicuddy and his team of dedicated Rotarians!
President Steve Morgan called the meeting to order and told us that today is Stop Bullying Day. He welcomed everyone to Rotary. PP Gene Grounds and Andrew Robbins were seated at the Head Table.

Patti Mitchell lead the club in the pledge to the American flag.

PP Dave Livingston shared an inspiration with the Club. His prayer was about the Hawaii Rail in hopes that there would be riders when it is done!

President Steve asked for guests to be introduced. Peter Erhorn’s wife Karen was introduced. Kathy Higa introduced Jaimie Dukelow from the Hawaii State Federal Credit Union in Maui. PP Bob Wo was introduced conducing a makeup.

Past Presidents and Past District Governors Roy King and Phil Sammer were introduced. PDG Phil Sammer was the Club’s song leader as we sang our welcome song. PP/PE Carol Riley welcomed our special guests and asked them all to introduce themselves to us.

Lisa Ahmed shared the Aloha Bucket. Lisa began by acknowledging Paul McGillicuddy for the work he did last Sunday at the Child and Youth activity in Honolulu. She also mentioned the reading that took place a Kapalama Elementary School and that she is going to be gone for the wedding of her son. PP Dave Livingston told us that he is having his 9th grandchild. PP Dave Hamil said he has become an uncle for the 13th time! PP Gayle Warshawsky thanked PP Laura Steelquist for helping get a basket for her walker. PP Gayle also told us how happy she is that she gave lots of books and puppets to Lisa’s daughter who is a kindergarten teacher. PP Sally Blanchard mentioned the upcoming Rotary International Convention in Hamburg, Germany and the trip that has been tagged on to the convention that is going to St. Petersburg and Moscow.

Interested people should let PP Sally know. PP Dick Matti thanked PP/PE Carol Riley for being Scribe and PP Gene Grounds for the hard work he is doing finding speakers for the Club. PP Robbie Ostrem said that he is Past President and his grandson, who plays soccer, is having a birthday. PP Sally Blanchard said she saw PP Robbie in a commercial on television. PP Robbie said he would donate money to the Foundation in honor of being on television. Lisa Ahmed told us that she just celebrated her anniversary and her daughter is now a CPA.

Announcements:

1. Paul McGillicuddy talked about the community service event last Sunday. He said that 12 Rotarians helped. It was a hot day and the volunteers were busy: finding a lost child, finding two lost cell phones, helping with trash pickup, and lots of other things. He said there were about 50,000 people in attendance. Paul then told us to save shoe boxes and collect soap, etc. for our giveaway project. We will do charity work with Serenity Gardens on December 1. We may have a food bank drive in November.

2. President Steve told us that October 24 is world polio day. We can participate in Strike Out for polio with other Rotary Clubs. November 24 is Rotary Gives Thanks Day.

3. PP Dave Hamil told us that we are 80 tickets away from the number we need to sell for the Foodfest. He knows we will come together and make it happen. He thanked PP Robbie Ostrem for making the arrangements for the Sister Club welcoming party at the Outrigger Canoe Club.

4. President Steve reminded us of the Halloween Party at PP/PDG Roy King’s house on October 31st. There will be a potluck and prizes!

PP/PE Carol Riley told us that she is retired. She said that is the best…and she also enjoyed being in education all of her life. She began teaching elementary school, then junior high school, and finally high school. She has been a principal four times in California and one time in Honolulu. She has been a Superintendent in California and is now working for the University of Brandman. She is teaching in the educational leadership doctoral program.

PP Gene Grounds introduced our speaker: Andrew Robbins. Andrew is the Executive Director and CEO of the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART), a position he has held since September of 2017.

PP Gene said that this is the right man for the job! Andrew began by telling us that he loves his job…at least most days. He said that they have learned so much! He also said after hearing our welcome song, he things HART could use a song. He was involved in the rail for Honolulu in the 90s. That did not work out, but he feels this time he is at the culmination of his career. He believes this is a transformative project and will make a big difference for people living all over this Island. His plan is to complete this project in a robust way. He wants to bring best practices to our community. He has worked in Hong Kong and Mainland China and has learned so much that will help us with our work.
LEADING INDIAN HOTELIER NAMED ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

NEW DELHI, (1 Oct. 2018) — Sushil Kumar Gupta, chair and managing director of Asian Hotels (West) Ltd. and owner of Hyatt Regency Mumbai and JW Marriott Hotel New Delhi Aerocity, will begin his one-year term as president of Rotary International on 1 July 2020.

Gupta, a member of the service organization for 41 years, belongs to the Rotary Club of Delhi Midwest. As head of Rotary’s global network of 35,000 clubs, Gupta aims to increase the organization’s humanitarian impact and club member diversity.

“"I'm humbled to join the distinguished ranks of those who have led this organization before me,” Gupta said. “I hope to leave a mark on Rotary that reflects selfless leadership and an unwavering commitment to service.”

India’s 3,700 Rotary clubs and 146,000 members take action to address humanitarian challenges and implement sustainable projects that fight disease, promote peace, provide clean water, support education, save mothers and children and grow local economies. More than $221 million awarded over the past several years through The Rotary Foundation has supported these programs.

Last month, Dakoju Ravishankar, a real-estate investor and Rotary member from Bengaluru, donated $14.7 million to The Foundation. “People support Rotary because it is a trusted organization that supports communities through tangible projects,” Gupta said. “In fact, CNBC named Rotary one of its top 10 charities in the world. In India alone, Rotary has positively impacted our communities through polio eradication, installing sustainable and safe...
In December 2007, Joan retired as HSTA’s Executive Director and Chief Negotiator ending a career that began in 1971 when HSTA was founded.

Joan holds a Bachelor of Philosophy degree from Siena Heights College and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Michigan. Joan came to Hawaii in 1966 to be a counselor at King Intermediate in Kaneohe. Later she became a District Resource Teacher in the Windward District. On the Mainland she taught sixth grade, high school English and was a counselor.

As a staff member she negotiated fifteen teacher collective bargaining agreements and guided the Association through three strikes and one walkout. Her duties included supervising field staff, legal cases, research and negotiations.

Joan served as the Chair and member of the Hawaii Commission on the Status of Women, a member of the Commission on Excellence and the Commission on Comparable Worth. Currently, she is a board member of the Education Institute of Hawaii and the Industrial Research and Relations Association. The Governor appointed her to the national governors’ Education Commission of the States. Previously, she served on both the Aloha United Way and the PBS Hawaii board of directors.

Awards:

THE YWCA: Outstanding Woman Leader
StarBulletin: Pacesetter of the Pacific Award
KGBM: One of the Outstanding Women of Hawaii
AUW: Norman Ahakuelo Award
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority: Western Region Distinguished Service Award
Hawaii Institute for Public Affairs: Leadership Award in Labor: