



AUGUST 7, 2019

**SPEAKER OF THE WEEK**

**Dick Matti**

My adventures in the Hotel Business



**ROTARY  
CONNECTS  
THE WORLD**



HAWAII CLUB 30  
DISTRICT 5000  
CHARTERED:  
JUNE 20, 1939  
RI PRESIDENT:  
MARK DANIEL  
MALONEY  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR:  
ERIC KALER

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**



Our speaker today was **Ferry Zandvliet** who recounted a terrorist attack which took place at the Bataclan concert hall in Paris in November 2015 which claimed the lives of 130 people. He narrowly escaped with his life and is now speaking at various Rotary Clubs about this horrific event.



**PE Paul McGilicuddey** welcomed visiting Rotarians from out of state after being serenaded by **Adrienne King**. They are Yosunobo Mimori from the RC of Yokohama Nanto and Satoshi Ota from the Rotary Club of Kyoto Naka Japan accompanied by his wife and daughter.



A very enthusiast group of Waikiki Rotary members manned the area outside of Walmart last Saturday for back to school supplies, which ended with a cartload of supplies and over \$400 in cash. Congratulations on all who volunteered!



Eager to get the party started, **President Carol Riley** rang the bell to open the meeting one minute early at 12:14.

In a pleasant change of events, **Linda Collard** was invited to the front, and led Rotarians in the pledge to our flag, which was followed by a pleasant inspiration from Dana Land with a call to action encouraging all to get 'back to basics' about teaching our children values to foster a better world.

John was called upon to introduce our guests. It turned out to be the easiest duty of the day, as there were remarkably no guests or friends of Rotarians present. There were however a few shell lei guests from Japan, so **President Carol** asked Japan Sister Club Liaison **Ikko Tomita** to bring the guests to the front of the room and help with translation duties. Before the shell lei crew got their moment in the sun, International Service Chair **Adrienne King** gladly accepted the role of song leader and helped the club to a nicely lively version of "Welcome to Rotary." If she can provide a few successful follow up performances, the Waikiki Rotary may have to allow Adrienne membership into the esteemed master level grand champion song leader club (current members include PDG Phil and Gale). Back to the shell leis though ... Ikko introduced a very nice family from Kyoto who are in Hawaii on vacation as well as a successful businessman from Yokohama who wants to eventually take up residence in Hawaii. Yoroshiku oneigaishimasu!

**President Carol** opened the floor for announcements and started off with a few of her own. She reminded everyone of the Rotary International Convention in Honolulu next June and strongly encouraged everyone to sign up. "This is the cheapest International Convention you will ever attend!" Carol also said that the District Conference will be held in the days leading up to the International Convention in order to accommodate neighbor island Rotarians who may want to attend both events, but don't want to make two trips.

**PP Stephen Morgan** thanked everyone for participating in last weekend's school supply drive. In addition to cartloads of supplies, over \$400 in cash was raised. The cash was used to buy backpacks, which were in turn filled with the supplies. The intention is to distribute these backpacks to the homeless families at tomorrow's joint club dinner/hygiene kit event, and distribute the remaining backpacks to the Waikiki Elementary School. **PP Janet Scheffer** kicked in \$20 as penance for not participating in the event and **Richard Fikani** brought in a boxful of supplies to our meeting. A special nod to **PP Stephen Morgan** as he has not only successfully coordinated this event for several years now, but has nicely dovetailed the end result of donations to support our other club efforts. Great job Stephen!

**PP Steve Koyama** made an announcement about the upcoming Golf Event. The event is the 3<sup>rd</sup> event of the IFF 'trifecta', taking place on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at Kapolei Golf Club. Kapolei is one of the nicest courses on the

island. The \$200 entry fee covers green fees, golf cart, drinks, snacks, prizes, and even a banquet following the event. Please let your golfing friends know about this event. We are looking for players and sponsors.

**PP Gene Grounds** made an announcement about our 'new and improved' Rotary work shirts. Made with much nicer material, these shirts are a bargain at only \$10! Pick up a few for your friends!

After the Happy Dollars bucket made the rounds, we transitioned to our speaker of the day. Netherlands native **Ferry Zandvliet** provided a scary recount of a horrific event, but with an uplifting message.

Terrorist attacks in Paris in November 2015 claimed the lives of 130 people. The majority of the casualties occurred at the Bataclan concert hall where 1,500 people were attending a concert. Three men entered the concert hall and began opening fire with AKM assault rifles. Ferry was at the concert when the shooting broke out. People all around him were getting shot and falling to the floor. After several harrowing minutes, Ferry managed to escape to safety through one of the emergency exits. The attacks at the club lasted approximately 20 minutes, and ultimately left 90 dead.

The social environment immediately following the aftermath was seemingly one of anger and vengeance. Calls from the public, from politicians, and even from one of the band members were to close the borders and retaliate in some way. Ferry said he personally felt the opposite. He personally refused to be angry with the perpetrators. It hasn't been an easy journey. Ferry described the tumultuous roller coaster of emotions he has been on since the attacks. He has experienced insomnia, anxiety, hyper-alertness, and other serious PTSD issues. Finally though, through his actions, he has been experiencing peace. He started a support group for victims of terrorism that meets several times per year. He has even befriended the father of one of the terrorists as part of the healing process for everyone. He has since worked with countless others in multiple countries around the world to help them not give in to fear and anger, as these are limiting beliefs. In short, you can choose how to respond to the events that occur in your life. You can choose to shut down, or you can choose to grow and appreciate life. Thanks again Ferry for sharing your story. Enjoy your beers and visit us again soon!

We shifted back to the regular program. Kathryn Henski won the lucky number drawing, but didn't come away with the jackpot. There's always next week everyone, and the pot will be even bigger! President Carol led us in the 4 way test, and rang to bell in dismissal. Look forward to seeing you all next week!

*Respectfully Submitted: PP Chad Adams*

## The Rotary Club of Waikiki

November 21, 2018

The following prospective member has been approved by the Board of Directors. In accordance with our by-laws, her name is hereby published for consideration by the membership. Should you have any comment, please respond to the Board, in writing, within seven days

### Barinna Poon

Classification: Real Estate-Investment & Leasing

Former member of the Rotary Club of Waikiki 2015-16

Sponsor: Roy King/Eva Lau



*Rotarians in Action at their station outside Walmart last Saturday. Their hard work was rewarded by record donations*



## MYTAXI DONATES PROCEEDS FROM RIDERS TO ROTARY

HAMBURG, Germany (31 May 2019) — To multiply the impact of the 25,000 Rotary members expected to attend the service organization's international convention 1-5 June, mytaxi will donate all proceeds from rides to and from the Hamburg Messe - beginning today until 5 June – to Rotary efforts that improve lives.

“Along with being one of our main event sponsors, we are grateful for mytaxi commitment to support Rotary club efforts to transform lives and communities for the better,” said Barry Rassin, Rotary International president.

Each year, Rotary members invest hundreds of millions of euros and countless volunteer hours to promote health, peace and prosperity in communities across the globe. mytaxi contribution will support:

- A bee pasture project developed by the Rotary Club of Ahrensburg to help the dwindling bee and butterfly populations to flourish;
- Emotions Training for Autism, developed by **Rotaract Germany**, to support those with autism spectrum disorder thrive in their personal and professional lives; and
- **HANWASH**, a collaborative initiative led by Rotary clubs in Haiti, The Bahamas, The Cayman Islands, The British Virgin Islands, **The Rotary Foundation**, **DINEPA** and others, to bring clean water to Haiti.

“We take pride in knowing that our donation will go toward improving our environment, economy and wellbeing,” said Eckart Diepenhorst, CEO of mytaxi. “With the leadership of Rotary clubs, we know that our contribution will result in lasting, positive change.”



## CLUB OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 2019-2020

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## TODAY'S SPEAKER: DICK MATTI



Dick Matti was born in Peking China where his father ran a chain of hotels. He attended various American Schools in China, later graduated from the Swiss Hotel School in Lausanne Switzerland.

He served in the Korean War as an Army Aviator and then parlayed his aviation skills into a commercial pilot for Cathay Pacific Airways in

Hong Kong. Grounded after seven years because of eye problems, he went back into the Hotel business joining Hilton International in opening the Hong Kong Hilton in 1963 where he started as Purchasing Manager and worked his way up the Manager by 1968.

He managed the Hong Kong Hilton until 1972 when he was transferred to Taipei to construct and open the Taipei Hilton where he served as General Manager until 1977.

He then joined the family business, the Miramar Chain of Hotels owned by his wife Lucia's family and moved to Honolulu to run the Miramar Hotel in Waikiki. In 1982 Matti started his own hotel consulting firm, Hotel Consultants International and hired two fellow Rotarians, Maurice Schwab as Finance Director and Bill Bigelow as Vice President of Marketing.

In 1983 Matti constructed and opened the Asiaworld Plaza Hotel Taipei, the largest hotel in Asia, which he managed until 1989 after which he returned to Honolulu to continue with HCI at their offices in the Wailana Building where he contracted and planned a number of hotel, restaurant and resort projects in Malaysia, Vietnam and Indonesia.

Dick has been a Rotarian for 50 years with the Rotary Clubs in Hong Kong, Taipei and Honolulu.



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