

Rotary Club of Kona Sunrise

"Peace Through Service"

The Coffee Press

August 12, 2026

This week: END POLIO NOW!

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The Rotary Club of Kona Sunrise meets the 2,3,& 4th Wednesdays at 7:00 am Papa Kona Restaurant 75-5770 Alii Drive Kailua Kona HI. For additional information contact Vernon Lowrey 573-465-2874 or konasuniserotary@gmail.com

Our guest speaker this week, via Zoom, is PDG Roz Cooper, District Polio Chair.

Roz will be bringing us up to date on the status of polio in the world, and on the efforts of our District to raise funds for the End Polio Now Campaign.

Don't miss the opportunity to hear from this incredible and dynamic Rotarian!



RI President's Message August 2026

Peace does not happen by accident. It must be pursued deliberately, built strategically, and woven intentionally into everything we do. That is the challenge I am placing before the Rotary world this year.

Rotary recognizes peacebuilding as one of our areas of focus. But I believe peace must be more than a category of work we set aside for certain projects. It must become a lens, one we choose to look through every time we plan, every time we serve, every time we ask what kind of impact we truly want to leave behind.

The Institute for Economics and Peace has identified eight Pillars of Positive Peace: well-functioning government, a sound business environment, equitable distribution of resources, acceptance of the rights of others, good relations with

neighbors, free flow of information, high levels of human capital, and low levels of corruption. These pillars describe the conditions that make lasting peace possible. And when I look at them carefully, I see enormous potential for Rotary. Not because our work automatically advances peace but because it can when we are deliberate about it.

That is the key word: deliberate.

A water project does not build peace on its own. But a water project designed with the Pillars of Positive Peace in mind — one that asks how equitable access to resources strengthens community trust — can begin to lay that foundation. A vocational training program does not guarantee reconciliation. But one that intentionally brings divided

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The Rotary Foundation



CREATE LASTING IMPACT



Rotary Club of Kona Sunrise "Peace Through Service"

They've Sprouted!!

The Peace Tree seeds that have been tenderly cared for by club member Bill Cullum at the Amy Greenwell Ethnobotanical Gardens have sprouted!

Last week Nancy and Vernon, Bill Cullum, along with Steve Yoshida and his wife Noko met at the gardens last week.

The Hiroshima Gingko Peace Seeds come from gingko trees that survived the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and now carry a powerful message of resilience, peace, and hope. Brought to Kona as

part of a Rotary Peace initiative, the seeds took several attempts—and nearly a year—to germinate.

Today, the first seedlings have sprouted and grown to about four inches tall. Special thanks to Rotarian Bill Cullum and the staff at the Amy Greenwell Ethnobotanical Garden in South Kona for their care and expertise, and to Steve Yoshida for organizing and guiding this remarkable process. These young trees will need a special place to grow, with

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2028 - 2029 Rotary International President is selected

Bharat Pandya, a member of the Rotary Club of Borivli, Mumbai, India, is the selection of the nominating committee for Rotary International president for 2028-29. He will officially become the president-nominee on 15 September if there are no other challenging candidates.

After receiving undergraduate and postgraduate degrees from Seth G. S. Medical College and King Edward Memorial Hospital in Mumbai, Pandya practiced as a general and laparoscopic surgeon for 38 years. Among other professional recognitions, he was awarded fellowships by the Association of Surgeons of India and the International College of Surgeons and earned the Borivli Medical Brotherhood's Outstanding Performance Award. He is a founding member of the Association of Minimal Access Surgeons of India and was a board member and vice chair of Jan Shikshan Sansthan, a government-sponsored vocational training and skill development institute. He received the Mumbai Gaurav (Pride of Mumbai) Award from Sanskriti Yuva Sanstha and the Indian Global Foundation.

Pandya has served as an RI director and treasurer and on numerous committees, among them the Finance Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee. He has served in multiple positions for

The Rotary Foundation: trustee, vice chair, Executive Committee chair, and vice chair of the Finance and Stewardship committees. He is currently chair of the RI Programs Committee and vice chair of The Rotary Foundation Programs Committee. He served on the India PolioPlus Committee in 2011-15, during which time India was certified polio-free.

Pandya and his wife, Madhavi, a past district chair of Inner Wheel District 314, are Major Donors and Benefactors. They have two daughters and one granddaughter.



Peace Seeds - continued

(Continued from page 2)

attention to both a cooler season and a warmer season, as we nurture them toward becoming living symbols of peace for our world.



Sprouts



Seedlings



Left to right:
Bill Cullum, Noko & Steve
Yoshida, Vernon Lowrey

The Rotary Minute - The Rotary Wheel

The first Rotary Club in Chicago began by using a cartwheel that symbolized civilization and movement.

Shortly thereafter, the words “Rotary Club” were added above it.

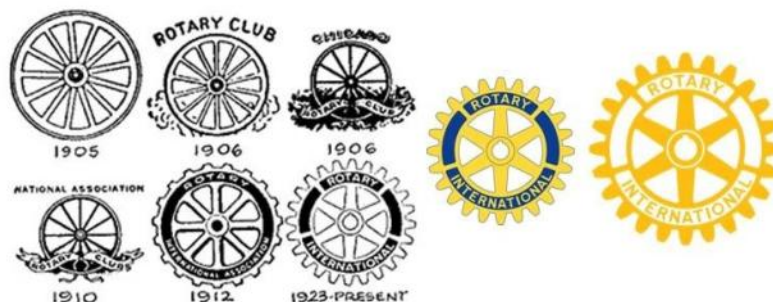
Each new Club created chose this emblem, often supplemented by the name of its city.

In 1910, the Philadelphia Rotary Club proposed the cogwheel, illustrating the joint work to achieve a goal.

In 1912, the Association of Rotary Clubs validated this wheel, adding “Rotary International”

For several years, the number and shape of teeth varied, until the adoption of a new wheel at the Dallas Convention in 1929, which is still in use today. It includes:

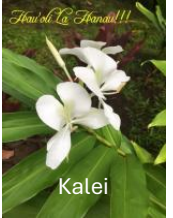
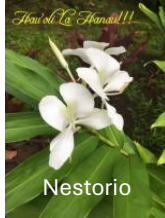
1. 6 spokes
2. 24 teeth symbolizing the spirit of service at any hour of the day
3. As well as a keying groove to lock the wheel on its axis and makes it functional



The Rotary Minute is a project of District 1700 in France. You can sign up to receive The Rotary Minute at <https://therotarianminute.org/>

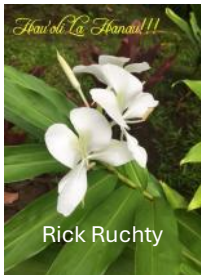
The Coffee Press

August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1  Kalei
2	3	4 Meet N Eat Kealakehe Intermediate School 4:30	5 	6	7	8
9	10  Chuck R	11  Nancy/Vernon (12th) → Cooper	12 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program: POLIO PLUS Zoom with Roz	13	14  Nestorio	15  Bernice/Bruce
16	17	18	19 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program: TBA	20	21 District Conference 21 - 23 	22
23 	24	25	26 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program: TBA	27	28	29
30	31					

The Coffee Press

September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Meet n Eat Kealakehe Intermediate School 4:30	2 	3	4	5
6	7 	8	9 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program TBA	10 	11	12
13	14	15	16 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program TBA	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program TBA	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program TBA			

The Coffee Press



Paul Harris
Founder of
Rotary



Olayinka
Hakeem
Babalola
Rotary
International
President
2026 - 2027



Benson
Medina
District 5000
Governor
2026-2027



Scott Unger
West Hawai'i
Assistant
Governor
2026 - 2027



Nancy
Lowrey
Rotary Club
of Kona
Sunrise
President
2025 - 2027

RI President's Message - continued

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communities together around shared economic opportunity can start to build it. The project does not change. The intention does.

In Colombia, Rotary's Pathways to Peace and Prosperity program shows us what this looks like in practice. Working in communities shaped by decades of armed conflict and displacement, the program combines economic empowerment with conflict resolution training and community-led reconciliation. Peace was not a hoped-for side effect. It was central to the design. That is the standard I am calling all of us to follow.

As you plan your next project, whatever the focus area, I want you to pause and ask one

question: How does this create the conditions for peace? Consult the Pillars of Positive Peace. Find where your work connects. Then, make that connection intentional. Share what you discover with your club, your district, and your community. The more we talk about peace as a practice rather than a destination, the more naturally it will shape everything we do.

This is not about doing different work. It is about doing our work differently, with greater awareness, greater purpose, and a clearer vision of the world we are trying to build. Every Rotary project carries potential. Our task is to unlock it, not by chance but by choice.

Olayinka H. Babalola
President 2026-27

Club News

Have you paid your dues yet? If so..thank you! If you have not, please do so as soon as possible.

Did you know that you can pay your dues via PayPal? If you have an account you can send your dues directly to the club using the email address of konasunriserotary@gmail.com.

REMEMBER...the club will match your Rotary Foundation donation (up to \$50 per

member). The deadline has been extended until August 31 - after that the match will no longer be available.



August is MEMBERSHIP month - and we have two new Rotarians who have been approved for club membership. The two members will be inducted as soon as the dates can be confirmed. Welcome **Brainard Brauer** and **Rob Schmelzer**.



The Coffee Press is published weekly and emailed to club members, fellow Rotarians, and friends around the world. To add or remove your name from our mailing list, email konasunriserotary@gmail.com. All rights reserved.