

Rotary Club of Kona Sunrise

"Peace Through Service"

The Coffee Press

July 1, 2026

This week: Family Support Hawai'i Early Head Start Program

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Our guest speaker this week is Stacy Brown, Director of the Early Head Start Program with Family Support Hawai'i.

from the website www.familysupporthawaii.org



The Four Cornerstones of Early Head Start are:

- Child Development: Parenting and health education that is developmentally appropriate and culturally sensitive.
- Family Development: and empowering families' abilities to support and nurture their children by meeting social and economic goals. Encouraging leadership through participation in Policy Council.

- Staff Development: Continuous training to assure that services are relevant and of high quality.
- Community Building: Increasing the community's capacity to support its families and children.

Please join us to hear about this vital program for children and families.

Welcome Stacy!



New Rotary Year!

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 konasunriserotary@gmail.com

On Saturday, June 27th, the 2026 - 2027 incoming Presidents for the West and North Hawai'i Rotary clubs were installed in their new positions by District Governor Elect Benson Medina.

The event was held at the home of Peter and Becca Schonberg, where Rotarians from all the clubs, as well as District Governor Nancy Cabral and other District representatives, enjoyed the fellowship of Rotary, and an excellent meal featuring Indian food.

Earlier in the day in Hilo, DGE Benson Medina was sworn in as District Governor for 2026 - 2027. His year as DG, as well as all other club, district and International leaders begins on July 1, 2026. Three of our club members attended the luncheon.

The theme for this Rotary year is "Create Lasting Impact"

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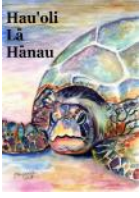
The Rotary Foundation



Rotary Club of Kona Sunrise
"Peace Through Service"

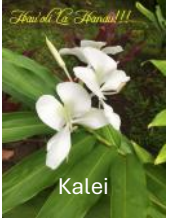
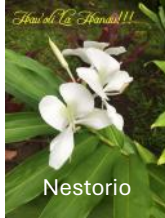
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July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program Family Support Hawai'i	2  Bill Cullum	3 Birthdays July 4: Derek Chignell and Al Jubitz	4 
5	6	7 MEET N EAT Kealakehe Intermediate School 4:30	8 	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program TBA	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program TBA	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program TBA	30	31  Chuck Cartwright	

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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) →	12 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 7:00 am Program: Life Flight Hawai'i	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					

Club President's Message for July

Hello My Fellows!!

As I reflect on our past year, all I can say is, "WOW!"

This is what I sent to District 5000 for my end-of-year message.

"What a great year this has been for the Rotary Club of Kona Sunrise! We enjoyed a meaningful and active year, participating in the July 4 and Christmas parades, supporting the monthly Meet n Eat program for food-insecure residents, and providing gifts to the Kona Domestic Abuse Shelter. We installed a small Peace Pole at the Kona VFW to honor Mike Fraser. We were invited guests to the West Hawaii Veterans' Cemetery for Veterans' Day and Memorial Day services, representing Rotary. We awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to excellent students at Konawaena High School. With the three other West Hawaii Rotary Clubs (Kona, Mauka, North) we

collaborated and organized the 31st Annual Kona Brewers Festival in April. Our Club's major project was the Kona Community ConnectFest—a gathering of 42 non-profits and government agencies to present their organization's information in one place to support housing, health, food, volunteer activities, and to network with each other. The Club's members enjoyed several Pau Hana events to fellowship with one another. Our programs and speakers were informative; we always learned something new! We've had a GREAT 2025-2026 Rotary year! We look forward to another great year as we continue to put Service Above Self."

I was limited to one 200-word paragraph, but I could've said so much more about all of our accomplishments. Thank you for your faith in me and your support of our Club and my presidency!!

Bring on the next year!!

New Rotary year - continued

(Continued from page 1)

In addition to the installation of the Presidents, there were various awards presented. Our club recognized **Barbara Kossow** with the "Quiet Rotarian", **Floyd Nordstrom** with the "Spirit of Rotary Award" and **Bev Fraser** with the District Service Award for encouraging the support of The Rotary Foundation.

The Rotary Club of Kona presented their Rotarian of the Year Award to **Gonzo Gonzales**. The clubs jointly recognized the Volunteer of the Year for Kona Brewfest as **Rick Ruchty**.

Thank you to everyone who attended the event, and to those members who have stepped into leadership positions in their respective clubs.



The Coffee Press

Club and Community



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

July 4th Parade

Our club will be participating in the July 4th Parade! Although we won't have a float, we will be walking in the parade with our club banner - if you can join us please do so. The parade starts at 6:00, so we will meet at the Kailua Kona gym at between 5 - 5:30.



Club member Captain Shawn Keoho has been transferred to the Salvation Army Corp on Maui - we will miss her and send our best wishes her way. The new Officer's in Kona are Steve and Romelia Howard, and they will be stationed here beginning on July 8th.



Speaking of The Salvation Army, they are looking for bell ringers for their Christmas in July program. President Nancy has the information if you are interested in volunteering for a few hours.



We have a new Club Service Chair! **Floyd Nordstrom** will be assuming the position beginning immediately, and will serve on the Board of Directors for 2026 - 2027. Thank you Floyd for stepping into the position, replacing Mike Fraser.

One of Floyd's responsibilities will be arranging for guest speakers at our regular

meetings. If you have an idea for a program, please let Floyd know - he will appreciate the suggestions and ideas.



We are in the process of updating our club website, working with Josh Laguna from the District Public Relations Committee. In addition to replacing older photos, we will also be working on the members only section, where Board Meeting Minutes, membership Directory, and other member only information will be available with a password. We are also creating an "In Memoriam" page for our members who have left our club to join the Rotary Club of Heaven, who we want to honor for their contributions to the success of our club.



Invoices for the first half of your 2026 - 2027 club membership will be hand delivered at this weeks meeting (if you are not at the meeting, they will be mailed directly to you).

The Board of Directors also approved a match program for The Rotary Foundation. The club will match your donation **UP TO \$50 PER MEMBER**, as long as you include your donation with your dues payment by July 31, 2026. You can include your donation with your check or credit card payment for your dues. Questions? Treasurer Bev Fraser would be happy to answer any.



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