Rotary Club of Kona Sunrise
"Peace Through Service"
The Coffee Press
September 16, 2026

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The Rotary Club of Kona Sunrise meets the 2,3,& 4th Wednesdays at 8:00 am
Papa Kona Restaurant
75-5770 Alii Drive
Kailua Kona HI.
For additional information contact
Vernon Lowrey
573-465-2874 or
konasunriserotary@gmail.com

This week: Forensic Nurse Examiner

Our guest this week is Bethany Brueggen, a Forensic Nurse Examiner.

What does a forensic nurse examiner do?

A forensic nurse examiner provides specialized, trauma-informed medical care to victims of violence, abuse, or trauma while collecting and preserving legal evidence for the criminal justice system. [1]

CORE DUTIES

Medical Care: Treat physical injuries, clean wounds, administer medications, and screen for hidden complications or infections.

Evidence Collection: Gather biological samples (such as using sexual assault kits), take photos of injuries, and save torn clothing while maintaining strict chain-of-custody rules.

Patient Support: Offer crisis intervention, emotional comfort, and guidance on reporting options and community resources.

Legal Collaboration: Act as a bridge between healthcare providers, social workers, and law enforcement, and provide expert testimony in court.

Welcome Bethany!

www.nursingworld.org/content-hub/resources/nursing-resources/how-to-become-a-forensic-nurse/

RI President's September Message

Rotary has always been about people. Not projects. Not numbers. People. Our goal of reaching 1.25 million Rotarians and 125,000 Rotaractors by our 125th anniversary in 2030 is also about people.

I bring up this goal again not because I expect the number itself to move you. Numbers rarely do. I bring it up because I worry that a goal this large can begin to feel abstract, distant from the everyday work of our clubs. I do not want that to happen. So let us talk, once more, about what is truly behind it.

I want to offer your club a simple exercise. Look back over the last five to seven years and find your best year.

Maybe it was a year new members arrived and, more meaningfully, stayed. Maybe it was a year your meetings became something members looked forward to, rather than another obligation on a crowded calendar. Find that year. Then I ask you to do better

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The Rotary Foundation
CREATE LASTING IMPACT
END POLIO NOW
Rotary Club of Kona Sunrise
"Peace Through Service"

RI President's Message - continued

(Continued from page 1)

than your best.

This is not a call to outpace the club across town or the district next door. It is never meant to be a competition between Rotary members. It is, instead, an invitation to hold ourselves to our own highest standard — and to rise to meet it again.

Why does this 2030 membership goal matter enough to me that I keep returning to it? Because behind every one of those numbers is a person whose life could be changed by this organization, just as mine and yours have been changed by it. Rotary has given me friendships that have lasted decades, a sense of purpose I did not know I was searching for, and something that, in time, came to feel like an extension of my family. I suspect many of you understand this in your own lives, in your own way.

That life-changing experience is what we offer when we invite someone to join us. There are people in your communities right now who would find real meaning here if only someone thought to ask them. So tell them your story. Tell them honestly how Rotary changed you, not just about the projects you led or the funds you raised but about the person you became along the way. Those stories have a way of reaching people when little else does.

If we hope to Create Lasting Impact, the kind that resounds for generations, we will need more people standing beside us to help carry our work forward. Let us come together, not only this month but every month of every year, to make Rotary stronger, more joyful, and more like the family it has always been to me.

Find your best year. Then let us be better than our best, together.

Olayinka H. Babalola
President 2026-27

LinkedIn Message from John Hewko

Around the world, loneliness is becoming a growing challenge. Yet when we talk about strengthening communities, we often focus on infrastructure, technology, or economic growth. What if one of the most important investments we can make is in human connection?

Research continues to show that the quality of our relationships is one of the strongest predictors of long-term well-being. That's why organizations built around service and shared purpose matter. They create opportunities for people to contribute, build friendships, and feel that they belong.

In the years ahead, I believe creating spaces for connection may become one of our most important forms of community leadership. If loneliness is becoming one of society's defining challenges, creating opportunities for belonging may be one of our most important responsibilities.

I explore that idea further in this speech: **https://lnkd.in/eBEDva-4**

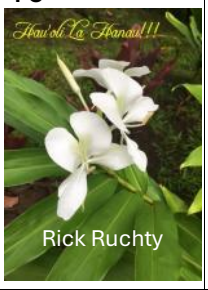


John Hewko

General Secretary & CEO at Rotary International

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 8:00 am Program: Boys to Men Mentoring	10 	11	12
13	14	15	16 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 8:00 am Program: Forensic Nurse Examiner Program	17	18	19
20	21 International Day of Peace 	22	23 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 8:00 am Program: FBI Board Meeting	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 8:00 am Program: Community Alliance Partners			

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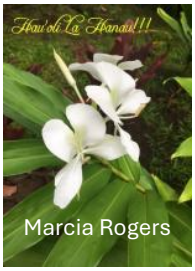
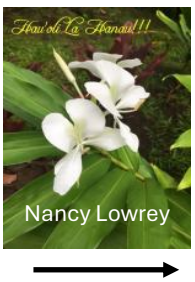
October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 	6 Meet N Eat Kealakehe Intermediate School 4:30 till pau	7 	8	9	10 
11	12	13	14 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 8:00 am Program TBA	15	16	17
18	19	20 	21 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 8:00 Program: Taipei Convention Board Meeting	22	23	24  Papa Kona Event
	26	27 	28 Regular Meeting Papa Kona 8:00 Program: TBA	29	30	31

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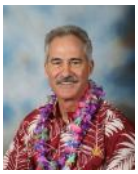
Paul Harris
Founder of
Rotary



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

Club/Community News

A message from the Rotary Club of Kona:

Aloha Club!

Interact is looking for folks to come out and help with their aid station for **Saturday, Oct 10.**

Their aid station is located in front of Honokohau Harbor. Its easiest to park on the side street (Kealakehe Pkwy-south of where the Queen K Texaco/Starbucks/etc. is) and walk across the highway to the makai side. The aid station is just near the entrance to the harbor.

Set up: 9:00 am to 11: 00 am
Tear Down: 10:00 pm to finish
Pizza Delivery: We need two people willing to stop by Costco pick up pizza and drop off at the aid station (noon and 5 pm).

Tina, the Interact sponsor, will have been there from 9 am to midnight so let's get out and show her our support!

If you are able to help let me know:
Name, Shirt size, Shift (set up/tear down/ pizza)

Thanks
Jenaya

Great news from our perennial guest Ivan Docker, from the Rotary Club of St. Albert. The two Rotary Clubs in St. Albert have installed a Peace Pole at the St. Albert Rotary Park.





UPCOMING DATES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR!

October 10 - Ironman (see message from the Rotary Club of Kona)
October 24 - END POLIO NOW information booth at Papa Kona Restaurant (volunteers needed to man the booth)

It's not too early to begin planning for a Christmas Project! The club has a budget to do some type of project for those who are struggling with every day challenges and might need extra help this Christmas. Please let Nancy know if you have a suggestion.

Today is National Cinnamon Raisin Bread Day!



The Rotary Foundation

END POLIO NOW

EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

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