



Ka Ho'olaha

Kanisehua

"...To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right..."

APRIL 2017

KEN OKIMOTO

PRESIDENT

JUNE NIIMI

SECRETARY

LANCE NIIMI

TREASURER

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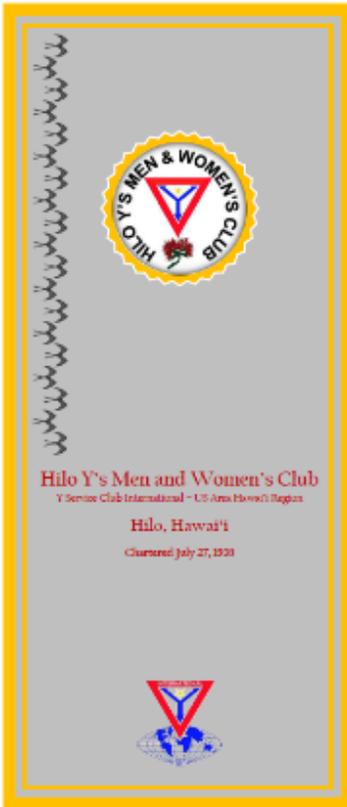
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Created by Kea

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Aloha e nā hoa makamaka!

While I'm sorry to say that I don't have any "exciting," random historical knowledge for the front page this month, I would like to share some information about the design on our new club banner (left) as well as those at the top of this newsletter. The print on the banner contains 19 'iwa (frigate bird) which represents each of our members. The 'iwa is also one of the four designs in the above heading of this newsletter – the other three being fish scales, mountains, and waves. These symbolize the idea of "from mountain to sea," and all beings from the depths of the ocean to the open endless sky. Also, the red and yellow color scheme used throughout represents both, the lehua blossoms of Hawai'i island and royalty.



... | President's Message | ...

Why is the season of Spring called "spring"? A poet might say that after a cold heavy burden of much weight is put on it, there is a recoil springing back to lift it away. Spring as a season is a time of renewal, new growth, warmth, optimism. Spring is the time of Easter; to have an attitude that there is an assuming of basic goodness in everyone, even when there is much evidence against it. So, as you bite into a chocolate egg, remind yourself that the original Easter Egg probably symbolized the attitude of the hatching of new life, and a better renewed you.

— Ken Okimoto, Club President

Calendar

April (*Apelila*)

- 12 Y's Business Meeting
- 16 Easter Day
- 19-22 Merrie Monarch
- 22 Ka'ū High School Visit
- 25 National Malaria Day
- 26 Y's Program Meeting

Christian Emphasis

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.."

– Philippians 4:8

... | April Shenanigans | ...



June Niimi brought some Easter fun to start off our April business meeting. In the picture to left are some of the goodies we enjoyed and to the right, we see papa goose Ken Okimoto (club president) nurturing his very special egg.



Funny Kine Stuff: A Lesson in Management

A sales rep, an administration clerk, and their manager are walking to lunch when they find an antique oil lamp. They rub it and a magical Genie comes out. The Genie says, "I'll give each of you just one wish." "Me first! Me first!" says the admin clerk. "I want to be in the Bahamas, driving a speedboat, without a care in the world." Puff! She's gone. "Me next! Me next!" says the sales rep. "I want to be in Hawai'i, relaxing on the beach with my personal masseuse, an endless supply of Pina Coladas and the love of my life." 'Puff! He's gone. "OK, you're up," the Genie says to the manager. The manager says, "I want those two back in the office after lunch." Moral of the story: Always let your boss have the first say.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

March 25-31 was the first International Week of Service, a chance for service organizations around the globe to partner with one another to make a big difference in their communities. While the date has passed the purpose remains and it's never too late to partner with other service organizations or even other Y Service Clubs to serve our communities. GET INVOLVED!

U.S. Area News

The current US Area Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Gene Koester term of office ends this fiscal year but since no candidates were nominated, the US Area Council voted to 'authorize' Gene to run for another term although he has 'termed out' per the Area's By-Laws. A special election will be held and ballots were mailed to all Area clubs. Ballots are due April 15 to the US Area President Charlie Redmond.

VOTE GENE!

Hawai'i Region News

Y Service Clubs Hawai'i Region News

The 81st Hawai'i Region Convention on beautiful Kaua'i, May 5-7 is about a month away. Six members of the Hilo Y's Men & Women's Club will represent our club including three of our newest members - Chris Omerod, Kea Calpito and Traven 'Āpiki. The 'old timers' joining the new members will be Ken Okimoto, Lance Niimi and Bobby Stivers-'Āpiki. The convention is expected to be educational and fun. Registration is still open.

Y Service Clubs Metro District News

Over 60 Y Service Club members from the six Metro clubs and youth leaders from Aloha United convened at YMCA Camp Edman at Mokule'ia for the 'great paint out and clean-up project'. Y Service members painted cabin interiors while the youth removed trash and overgrowth from the camp grounds. Fun and fellowship after a full day of service captured the essence of why our clubs exist. YMCA Camp Erdman serves over 30,000 campers annually and needs a lot of maintenance support. Great job Metro District of Y Service Clubs!!

PARTNERSHIP NEWS – YMCA



YMCA Healthy Kids Day & 1st Annual Mother's Day Walk on May 13 has been cancelled since it was announced in last month's Ka Ho'olaha Kanilehua newsletter. The Y event involves participation from many non-profit organizations but on May 13, the great Hawai'i Island Charity Walk will be held at the queen's Marketplace, Waikoloa and many non-profit organizations will be participating in this huge annual event. The Walk is sponsored by the Hawai'i Island Visitor Industry to raise funds for Hawai'i Island non-profit organizations.

The YMCA Healthy Kids Day will be incorporated with the Y's Summer Day Camp Family Day event scheduled for Saturday, July 22, 2017 at the Y. Hilo Y's Men & Women's Club members will be a partner in hosting this event for our island families.



2017 Hawai'i Island Charity Walk Saturday, May 13, 2017, 7 AM Queen's Marketplace. Sign up online charitywalkhawaii.org. Support Hawai'i Island charities like the Hawai'i Island YMCA.



YMCA Annual Support Campaign Kick-Off April 1

ASC Campaign Chair, John Kai recently announced the 2017 Annual Support Campaign will kick-off on April 1. The goal is to raise \$50,000 to support the Y's program focus of youth development, healthy lifestyles and social responsibility. "Together We Can Do So Much More" is the campaign's theme. If we, Y Service members, Y members, families, friends and community working together we can make a difference in our community. The Hilo Y's Men and Women's Club, its partner in service with the Y has made a pledge of \$3,000 to the 2017 Campaign.

Ken Okimoto, club president will present the club's donation at the ASC kick-off. Individual members are encouraged to make your personal contribution to the campaign. The campaign ends May 13, 2017.

Correspondence



Hilo Y's Men & Women's Club Support Centennial

Friends of Queen Lili'uokalani Gardens is planning a year-long observance of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Hilo park, and the death of its namesake and co-founder. The Japanese garden park will celebrate Children's Day on May 5 with the flying of 100 'koinobori' or carp streamers that are carp-shaped wind socks. The Y Service Club donated 10 koi flags for the celebration and presented the flags to the Friends of the Lili'uokalani Gardens at a recent clean-up project.

YMCA Youth and Government Ka'u High School Donation

Our Hilo Y's Men & Women's Club donation of \$500 to the Ka'u High School YMCA Youth & Government Program supported 20 teens to the 66th YMCA Youth & Government Program in Honolulu during the past winter break. This is the second year of Ka'u's participation in this civic education program. Teens learn about the legislative branch of government and assume the roles of representatives and senators by discussing issues facing Hawai'i. They learn to draft bills, debate and use parliamentary procedures to enact their bills. A Youth Governor, House and Senate officers are elected and perform the roles as state executive and legislative officers.



Ka'u High School is a Title I school where 90% of its student body qualifies for free or reduced lunch and its students are predominantly Native Hawaiians, Filipino, and Marshallese. The teens, families and community raised funds to pay for program expenses, round trip airfare, lodging and meals.

(Ka'u HS Y&G Delegates with Teacher Kevin Sun in white suit.)

Ka'u High School Y & G participants will share their experiences with members of the Hilo club at a special gathering in Ka'u on Saturday, April 22. One student wrote, "I'm doing this because there are things in my community that need improvements and by having a voice in Youth & Government, I could make the change happen". – B.N. student.

We want to especially thank Kevin Sun, teacher and advisor of the Ka'u H.S. Youth & Government Program. As a former participant of Y&G on the continent, Kevin motivated and inspired some 30 teens who gained unforgettable memories and lifelong experiences for the young people of Ka'u.

Ka'u High School Y & G participants will share their experiences with members of the Hilo club at a special gathering in Ka'u on Saturday, April 22. All members of the club is encourage to attend and meet these outstanding teen leaders. Contact Ken Okimoto, club president.

Back To the Future. YMCA Model Legislature.

Back in the 1950's and 60's, Youth & Government was called "Model Legislature." Back then over 200 teens from all islands participated in the week-long program in Honolulu. The Wai'akea YMCA (Hilo) had the largest delegation of all state YMCA delegations and over the years, 11 Hilo Youth Governors were elected by their peers. Lance Nuimi, Brian DeLima, Roland Nip, Elisa Yadao, Peter Matsuura and so many of productive community leaders participated in "YMCA Model Leg". "Democracy must be learned by each generation." How true it is!

