### **SKÅL INTERNATIONAL HAWAII**

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International Association of Travel and Tourism Professionals Founded 1934

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#### President's Message



Fellow Skålleagues,

We had a wonderful time celebrating our 65th Anniversary last month at the

Pineapple Room. A special thanks to Tom Anusewicz for the special video taking us back the full 65 years. It was great to honor our tenured members who have been so loyal and dedicated over the many years. Thank you to Mary Lou Lewis for donating the beautiful floral centerpieces as well as Jen Chun and Naomi Kanna for coordinating the engraved table favors, and Phil Sammer for coordinating a memorable evening among dear friends

We also completed our clubs first ever internet auction and raised close to \$6,000 in donations. A special thanks to everyone of you who donated and participated in this very successful auction fundraiser. I would like to extend a very special mahalo to Joe Ibarra, Heidi Maxwell, and Brian Chan for organizing this incredible effort. Joe is confident that we could have a 2nd auction just before the Holidays, possibly in November, so its not too late to get some very exceptional offerings while donating to the Skål fundraising efforts.

We are pleased to announce we have adopted a new sister club in Skål International Tokyo in Japan. We

welcome the Skål International Tokyo with open arms and say "Aloha!" Any Skalleagues heading to Tokyo, please be sure to check out their website at skaltokyo.com

Speaking of global travel, we are pleased to have Doug Okada representing us at the North American Skål Congress in Toronto, Canada later this month, and Valerie Davis has committed to attend the 77th Skål World Congress in Hyderabad, India. We look forward to hearing from both at our annual membership meeting in November 16th at the Waialae Country Club.

Our travel industry is a mobile one. Unfortunately we sometimes must say "aloha" to our members as their careers take them elsewhere. We are sad to bid a fond Aloha to Niel Mason who has relocated back to Australia. We sincerely appreciate all of Niel's hard work and commitment to the club, and wish him much success in Australia. We were fortunate to find a very capable David Crouch to fill the role of Secretary for the remainder of 2017. Please help me congratulate David.

It's been an amazing first half, but we still have so much more to go in 2017. Corey Kozuma is our Golf Committee Chair, and he asked me to announce our annual golf tournament date is set for October 12th at the Hawaii Prince Golf Club. Please save this date. We all deserve a break to go out and join our fellow Skålleagues and travel partners in the humbling

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# SIUSA Executive Committee Prepares for NASC

The Skål International USA Executive Committee held a teleconference focused on items to be decided and preparations for the upcoming North American Skål Congress in Toronto.

The highlights of the call were as follows:

- Clubs missing our upcoming annual meeting in Toronto will be assessed \$500. This was adopted on an amended vote rather than assessing the full price of registration and in consideration of the available \$500 credit for all clubs to attend. 90% of clubs are expected to attend.
- All clubs have paid their dues.
- Skål Club of the Year will be SI Arkansas or SI Nashville
- Member of Distinction Award, which is nominated by Executive Committee and voted by membership during AGM, suggested by Executive Committee to be renamed The Bill Sweet Member of Distinction Award. This will be presented at the AGM and subject to 50% plus 1 vote of membership. Only Skålleagues can be nominated by the EC.

SAVETHE

our next meeting will be held next week,

## Thursday, June 29th 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

MBRKET

at BLT Market at the Ritz Carlton Residences

all reservations due no later than this Thursday, June 22nd

#### Pics from our April Meeting



Deems Narimatsu, Clyde Min, Matt Bailey and Dan Bayne promise never to tell who bonked Dan on the nose! :)



Bucky Yee, Dean and Holly Nakasone and Tom Anusewicz



Mary Lou Lewis and Heidi Maxwell were all smiles collecting the money!



#### **Scholarship Updates**

We continue to move forward with our scholarship program. 8 students have been selected to receive scholarships for Fall 2017. They represent UH, HPU, KCC, LCC and Kauai Community College and UH-Maui College. All are in travel industry management or (HOST) programs, chosen by their schools, meet the SKÅL qualifications, and are bright and enthusiastic.

## 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual SKÅL Hawaii Golf Tournament October 12, 2017

Mark your calendars to join your fellow Skålleagues at our 22nd Annual SKÅL International Hawaii Golf Tournament on Thursday, October 12, 2017.

The tournament will be held at the beautiful Hawaii Prince Golf Course. Your day will begin with a 10:00 a.m. check-in and lunch followed by a 11:30 a.m. shotgun start. There will be a pitch and putt contest, longest drive and closest to the pin awards, team prizes and a live auction featuring hotel stays, air tickets and fine dining. Sponsorships are available at various levels. A dinner banquet with awesome prizes and raffles will cap off a day of fun and camaraderie.

For those of you who don't play golf but would still like to get involved, we encourage you to sponsor a team or donate prizes. You may also join us for just the dinner portion of the day.

SKÅL International Hawaii hosts a golf tournament each year to raise money for scholarship awards given to deserving students majoring in Travel Industry. These students are the future of our industry and it is our kuleana to support them in anyway we can, to encourage them and help them through their journey just as our predecessors did for us.

The scholarships will be awarded to students enrolled at the University of Hawaii-Manoa, Hawaii Pacific University, Kapiolani Community College, Leeward Community College,



Club President Ted Sakai with last years student volunteers

Kauai Community College, and Maui College. Our goal this year is to get a MINIMUM of 36 teams, and SKÅL is requesting your help by either putting together a team, becoming a sponsor, or making a generous donation towards team and/or door prizes.

So, mark the date and start assembling your teams of three and come join us as we raise money to support the future leaders of our industry. Please contact your tournament chair Corey Kozuma with any questions you may have! Team and prize donation forms are posted on our website and will be available at the August meeting. If you haven't signed up for a team yet, what are you waiting for? Let's all make this year's event a huge success!

#### President's Message

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sport we call golf. This is our primary fundraiser and we hope we can count on each of you to bring in a team. Help us to reach our goal of 36 teams!

We do all of this fundraising so we can make a difference in some deserving college students lives. Valerie Davis and her Scholarship Selection Committee have done a wonderful job in working with the local Universities and Colleges in the Travel Industry to confirm very special students who have worked hard and are deserving of our SKÅL

scholarship. We look forward to recognizing them in person at our Scholarship dinner meeting on October 26th at Kapiolani Community College.

I know its early but please don't forget to mark your calendars for our memorable year end Holiday Party at The Kahala Hotel & Resort on December 7th. Its been a great start to 2017, so don't miss out on the fun, bring a guest and we look forward to seeing you at this month's meeting June 29th at BLT Market at the new Ritz Carlton Residences in Waikiki

A Hui Hou,

Ted Sakai

#### Pics from our March Meeting



Dean and Holly Nakasone, Doug Okada and Karen Wataru Nakaoka



Jade Guess, Morad Shaker, JP Cercillieux and Maria Sung



It pays to be the President! Ted Sakai wins!



Deems Narimatsu, Matt Bailey, Carlton Kramer and Dennis Piosalan



Denise Anderson, Susan Weander and Mike Dailey



Carter and Heidi Kamana, David Crouch and Gary Ettinger



Clyde and Hilda Min, Brian Chan, Joe Ibarra, Tom Aunsewicz, Phil Sammer and Mary Lou Lewis



Gloria Henderson, Mike Miller, Tom Adachi, Peter Fithian, Jennifer Chun, Valerie Davis and Hal Henderson.



Please take a moment to get to know the newest members of our club the next time you see them.



Fernando Vazquez General Manager Hyatt Place Waikiki Beach



Carter Kamana Consultant Avendra



Clyde Min



We would like to wish one of our fellow Skålleagues best wishes on his latest endeavor:



**Niel Mason** moved back to Australia recently to accept the position of General Manager at the 25acre Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort, part of

Oaks Hotels & Resorts in the heart of the iconic Hunter Valley wine region in new South Wales.

#### Pics from our 65th Anniversary Dinner

On April 4, 1952, John S. Pugh as charter President, began the first of many meetings known back then as the Skal Club of Hawaii. On May 25th, members celebrated our clubs 65th anniversary at Alan Wong's Pineapple Room at the Ala Moana Center. Tom Anusewicz created a fabulous video for the members to enjoy, and our most senior member, Peter Fithian, got up to say a few words.

