Rotary District 5000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT TO MAKE HIS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO HAWAIʻI

– R. Gordon McInally will visit Maui, Oʻahu, and Hawaiʻi Island on inaugural visit –

HONOLULU (April 11, 2024) – Rotary International President R. Gordon McInally, accompanied by his wife, Heather, will be making a special visit to Hawaiʻi Rotary District 5000 during the week of April 15, 2024 to meet with district and club leadership on Maui, Oʻahu, and Hawaiʻi Island. During his time in the islands, he will expand on his presidential theme of creating hope in the world and continue his global advocacy for mental health services in a series of public appearances.

"This year, we're sharing hope with the world and inspiring one another to make an even greater impact in our communities," R. Gordon McInally, Rotary International President.

With more than 500 Rotary districts and over 46,000 Rotary clubs in the world representing 1.4 million members, this visit marks a rare and significant opportunity for Rotary members and non-members across the state to engage with McInally, who is a member of the Rotary Club of South Queensferry, West Lothian in Scotland. Hawaiʻi's District 5000 has 53 Rotary clubs and more than 1,500 members across the four main Hawaiian Islands which continue to build on its legacy of impactful community service for more than a century.

McInally created the theme "Create Hope in the World" as the inspiration for Rotarians during his presidency. His visit to Hawaiʻi underscores the importance of Rotary's mission to make a positive impact on communities worldwide.

Hawaiʻi Rotary District Governor Mark Merriam said, "We are truly honored to host Rotary International President Gordon McInally and his wife, Heather, here in Hawaiʻi District 5000. Their visit holds special significance for us, particularly in the aftermath of the devastating Maui wildfires."

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Rotary District 5000

McInally's visit will include a series of events across O'ahu, Maui, and Hawai'i Island, providing Rotary and community members with the opportunity to interact with him and learn about Rotary's initiatives in Hawai'i and around the world.

1. **Maui Showcase: Monday, April 15** – Visit to Maui as Rotary clubs there showcase the valuable work they have done to support families impacted by the Maui wildfires. This visit will culminate with a special gathering at and check presentation to Lahainaluna High School. This event is open to the public. Registration is at https://bit.ly/rotary-president-maui2024

2. **Hawai'i Island Highlights**: **Wednesday, April 17** – Visit to Hawai'i Island to gather with Rotarians that will share aloha and project highlights at a lunch meeting at Hilo Hawaiian Hotel. This event is open to the public. Registration is available at https://bit.ly/rotary-president-hilo2024

3. **Rotary Club of Metropolitan Honolulu Meeting**: **Thursday, April 18** – President McInally will be the club's guest speaker at its weekly membership meeting at The Pacific Club in Honolulu. This event is open to the public. Registration is available at https://bit.ly/rotary-president-metro2024

4. **Women of Rotary Gathering**: **Thursday, April 18** – Heather McInally will engage with the Women of Rotary at a private event for an intimate discussion.

5. **Foundation Donors Reception**: **Thursday, April 18** – An exclusive reception will honor D5000 Foundation donors. This is an invitation only event.

6. **Mental Health Initiative RAG Meeting**: **Friday, April 19** – A Zoom meeting will feature President McInally, focusing on mental health advocacy. The event is open to the public. Registration is available at https://bit.ly/rotary-president-mhi2024

7. **Kanikapila Event**: **Friday, April 19** – A gathering at Waikalua Loko Fishpond will feature Hawaiian music, food, and fellowship. The event is open to the public. Registration is available at https://bit.ly/rotary-president-pauhana2024

"Together, with President McInally, we're igniting a renewed spirit of hope, showing the world that the aloha spirit is resilient and stronger than ever." - Mark Merriam, District Governor, Rotary District 5000

For more information and event details, please visit rotaryd5000.org.

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Rotary
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Pictured:
Rotary International President R. Gordon McInally

About Rotary:
Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders dedicated to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Rotary connects 1.4 million members of more than 46,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Their work improves lives at both the local and international levels, from helping those in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world. For more information, visit Rotary.org.

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