

Rotary Club of Hilo



LAVA FLOW



August 7, 2015

Chartered: December 1, 1920

Reporter: Jean

SAVE THE DATE:

CHICKEN HEKKA on Thursday, Sept 17th

While **Wally** was waiting for his flight to Bali to join the Hokule'a, **Mitch Dodo** expertly took the reins and presided over our 7 August meeting.



Mitch tapped **Bob Fox** (who looked the most patriotic) to lead us in the Pledge.

Our inspirational thought for the day:

For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food, for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson



Donnie Demuth introduced our visiting Rotarians from Hilo Bay: **Mary Bergier** and **Marlene Norton**. Our guests included: **Tammy Sillva's** daughter, **Kanani**; **Dr. David Gerber** (**Donnie's** friend); and our soon-to-be newest member **Nina Decker** (**Cindy Boots'** guest).

Mitch explained that although he strongly resembled **Wally**; he was indeed *not*.

Funny story: when **Wally** asked me to be club vice-president—I thought "sure, this will be great. I won't have to do anything. So, I said "Fine **Wally**, I will be your VP." Then at one of our board meetings, **Wally** asked to talk to me. He said "**Mitch**, there is a very, very, very SMALL chance that I might be away for a little while. I'm on the short list of those who will crew the Hokule'a." "Hmm," I thought, "so what does this mean to me??" Then at the installation dinner, I heard **Bruce Blankenfeld** say "When **Wally** and I go to Bali. . ." and I knew I had been taken hook, line, and sinker." As far as I can tell, it will be about 6 weeks, and I will do my best to honor him and I hope you will support me."

Thanks to **Biff Kennedy** for last week's Lava Flow.

Reese Mates thanked **Marcia**, **Wally**, and **Rob** for their hard work on the second phase of garden building at the Hawaii Island Home for Recovery on Kapiolani. They created a wooden inagram form for the garden shape. The inagram is significant in the healing recovery process. **Reese** asked for volunteers to help paint on August 8th, and she needs volunteers to work with the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay on August 22nd from 9am to 1pm to also help.

Mike Meyer shared that the backpack project for homeless students was a great success! Mahalo to **Mike**, **Reese**, **Reese's daughter**, and **Wally** for their great bargain shopping skills. I'm sure that the students who received the packs were very grateful.



August is member extension month, so please attend our HAPPY HOUR event at Coquis on Friday at 5pm. Bring a friend, bring a spouse, bring a pet, but COME and enjoy the company of your fellow Rotarians. This is the first in a series of exciting events that **Connie Ichinose**, our wonderful Membership Director, has dreamed up for us.

On a sad note, we bid a fond farewell to our wonderful lycee mama, **Theresa English**. **Theresa** was always warm and welcoming; we will truly miss her gracious spirit at all our get togethers. Thanks so much **Theresa** for giving so much of your time and energy to make our club better.

Kerry is studiously keeping track of our club's donations. For those of you who may not have contributed yet to **THE ROTARY FOUNDATION** (this is the main Rotary International Foundation, not to be confused with our own club's foundation), please consider giving a dollar or two to the cause. Right now, half of our members have contributed but we need the other half (you know who you are) to please give a little.

Kerry also presented **Paul Harris Fellow** pins to **Bob Hanley** (**Paul Harris plus 1** award for donating \$2,000 to the **Rotary Foundation**), and to Acting President **Mitch Dodo** (**Paul Harris plus 3** pin for donating \$4,000). To which **Mitch** exclaimed "YIKES! I didn't realize I had donated SO MUCH! No, just joking."



HAPPY DOLLARS

Helen Hemmes, **Mike Meyer**, **Cindy Boots**, **Nancy Cabral** (getting old ain't for sissies) were all happy for our club.

Mitch Dodo was happy to see **Bobby Stivers-Apiki** at the meeting. WELCOME BACK BOBBY!!

We are all so happy to have you back at the meetings.

SPEAKER

Harvey Tajiri, husband of our esteemed member **Helene Tajiri**, introduced our speaker:

"I have some observations sitting over there listening to **Mitch**. Your president, **Wally**, is not all that bright I thought, because he's riding on Hilo's only moritian. You never ride on the guy that's going to work on you."

"And I thought to myself over there, everybody's so happy they're giving away money. Normally, I would think that my wife ought to disengage herself from this club because if she's giving away money I'm going to be depressed. I just thought I would share those observations with you. Take it for what it is. For those of you who don't know me I'm a former politician, I'm not too bright."

Bob Fox chimed in "For those of us who know you too!" **Harvey** retorted "**Bob** used to be a neighbor of mine. I wasn't that choosy."

Birthdays:

Corey Kawamoto August 1
Misti Tyrin August 1
Tina Jimenez August 13
Jerry Watanabe August 28

Club Anniversary:

Donald Straney August 6, 2010 (5)
Kui Costa August 6, 2010 (5)
Wally Wong August 6, 2010 (5)
Cel Ruwethin August 12, 2011 (4)
Lorraine Inouye August 28, 2009 (6)
Eric Cohen August 29, 2014 (1)
Marcia Prose August 29, 2014 (1)

Wedding Anniversary:

Glenn & Anne Harris August 1 (17)
Gail & Gordon Takaki August 2 (35)
Tina & Tom Jimenez August 6 (33)
Jenny & Richard Johnson August 30 (46)

Announcements:

Aug. 14 - Wine Social @ 5 pm
Coqui's Hideaway
Aug. 21 - Brian Nussbaum -
Kuikahi Mediation Ctr.
Foreclosure Dispute Resolution
Aug. 28 - Tim Hansen -
Hi County Special Projects Coordinator
Sept. 4 - Chris Ridley
10 Warning Signs of Dementia
Sept. 11 - Reese Mates - Shelter Box USA
Sept. 25 - Lynn Nakim - "Dealer's Choice"
Oct. 2 - Marcia Prose - Hilo Palace Theatre
Oct. 23 - Glenn Harris
Ethics and The Rotary 4-Way Test

President Wally Wong
President Elect Glenn Harris
Immediate Past President Richard Johnson
Vice President Mitchell Dodo
Secretary Susan Munro
Treasurer Alan Kusunoki
Sergeant-at-Arms Kathleen McGilvray
Membership Connie Ichinose
Public Relations Marcia Prose
Rotary Foundations Kerry Glass
Club Service Lisa Rantz
International Service Stew Hussey
Community Service Reese Mates
Youth Service Tammy Silva
Vocational Service Biff Kennedy

Harvey continued "KT basically was born in California and grew up in Michigan of all places.



And I got to know her several years ago by way of the Democratic Party because her husband did extensive work for the party a lot. But she grew up on the mainland and she came to love Japanese gardens. On the island right now she is the foremost authority on Japanese gardens. She is former President of the North American Japanese Garden Association. She really knows her stuff."

"Find something you like and make that at home using the materials at hand and the plants at hand," is the advice from the Souteki (a manual for building Japanese gardens).

How did we get a Japanese garden? King Kalakaua wanted a treaty with Japan. He was the first monarch to circumnavigate the globe. When he reached Japan he not only started to cement that relationship, but he also sought to marry off one of his nieces (Princess Kaiulani) to one of the emperor's fifteen sons. But she said "no," and the son said "no," However a treaty was reached and in February of 1885 the first ship arrived within one month the King had a Japanese gardener. On March 3rd of 1885 Queen Kapiolani had a Japanese Garden on her property on Beretania Street. Just a couple of days after that the King's ambassador to Japan (who had married a Japanese citizen) had a Japanese garden built at his residence. Kapiolani became enamored of things Japanese and collected artworks, furnishings. To this day Iolani Palace hangs lanterns in the yard around Kapiolani's birthday to celebrate her love of things Japanese.

Liliuokalani had a great love for Hilo. One of her ladies in waiting was the wife of John Baker, the former governor of the island of Hawaii. In 1902 Liliuokalani gifted her private lands (not crown lands) to Hilo for a park, and it sat there for quite a while. In 1912, there was a Japanese Woman's society and their stated purpose was to work together with the Outdoor Circle territory-wide to improve conditions for everyone, not just for Japanese immigrants. The second thread behind the garden building was the Hilo shinko-kai group that wanted a garden. The third and final thread was Laura Kennedy, the second wife of Charles Clark Kennedy who had just retired from the sugar mills. As the President of the Board of Trade of the Honolulu Businessman's Group, Mr. Kennedy took his wife with him when he visited the 1914 World's Fair in Japan. She loved flowers

and she brought the raw materials and a gardener to build her garden, Bide-a-Wee, across the street from the Volcano post office. She put her gardener to work in Liliuokalani Garden, since she was involved in the Hilo beautification project.

In springtime of 1917 the territorial legislature set aside 17 acres across of Coconut island as Hilo's Japanese garden. Japanese gardens had already been built on Oahu, but there was none in Hilo yet. Of the gardens that were built on Oahu, none remain. On the mainland, fewer than 20 have reached a centennial. We are just one of them. We need to continue the legacy of our ancestors.

On Friday and Saturday the 21st and 22nd of August we will be doing the second round of thinning the bamboo that has not been worked on for 30 years.

For those of you who know me, you know I love the word "party," so when I thought about the centennial, I thought "let's have a yearlong party!"

My ideas of how to celebrate: Let's do something big every month of the year; there are already several events that happen every year. For example:

Lantern festival
Fishing contest

(need to fix the pond and restock with mullet)

Greenpoint nurseries and the Florists Associations are working on a master florist's class followed by a humongous sogetsu style arrangement

Invite all the couples who married there to renew their vows.

If you have an idea of something please contact me.

Lanterns throughout the garden that represent each of the 14 different prefectures. Some lanterns are missing and we want to replace them and note the meaning.

Rotary has participated in centennial events throughout the world, so we need to think about ways to get involved during the yearlong celebration.





Happy Hour

with Rotary & Friends

Friday, August 14
Coqui's Hideaway
5 -7 p.m.

\$20.00

- Heavy pupus
- No host drinks
- Happy hour prices
- Replaces Friday lunch meeting

August is Membership Month!
Bring a friend!!!!

