



The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo

Welcome!

Past President Kerry Glass welcomed Rotarians and guests to the meeting, noting that he was substituting for **Past President Mitch Dodo**, delayed at work. He called on **Corey Kawamoto** to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance, and expressed thanks for **Cindy Boots'** having available words of inspiration from Maya Angelou: "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

He thanked greeters **Alberta Dobbe** and **Connie Kurohara**, with **Alberta** introducing Rotarians **Deborah Beaver** from the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay and **Phoebe Lambeth** from the Rotary Club of South Hilo. Rotarians introduced their guests, **Chris Tamm**, our

speaker **Springer Kaye**, **Corey Kawamoto**, his guest **Lisa Rantz**, **Jim Cheney**, guest **Mike Meyer**, and **Joe Hanley**, his son, **Joe Hanley III**, home from service to our country for a month.

Thanks!

Thanks were expressed to **Biff Kennedy**, reporter, and **Kerry Glass**, photographer, for sharing their talents for the December 5th issue of the Lava Flow. **Kerry** noted that **Susan Munro** was substituting today for **Stew Hussey**. Mahalo!

Brief Business Meeting.

Kerry stated that the slate of nominees for officers and directors for FY2015-2016 had been circulated and that a quorum was present at today's meeting. It was moved and unanimously approved that a "voice vote" be the method of voting. It was then moved and approved that the nominees be elected to serve. Congratulations and thanks go to Rotarians willing to serve as officers, as follows: President, Wally Wong; President Elect – Glenn Harris; Vice President – Mitch Dodo; Secretary – Susan Munro; Treasurer – Gail Takaki (with assistance by John Mc Vickar); and Sergeant-at-Arms – Kathleen McGilvray. Kudos go also to the directors elected: Connie Kurohara, with assistance by Cindy Boots – Membership; Alberta Dobbe – Public Relations; Alan Kusunoki – Foundations; Tom Brown – Club Service; Misti Tyrin – Community Service; Biff Kennedy – Vocational Service; Tammy Silva – Youth Service; and Stew Hussey – International Service. **Kerry** shared that Past President Tom Brown will also serve as Assistant District Governor for East Hawaii.

Announcements.

- **December is Family Month.** Bring your family to Rotary. (For our meeting on Dec. 19th, come dressed in festive, holiday attire!)
- The Club now has sixty-nine members, as **Christina Dhillon** has moved. Our goal is 77. Remember – it's everyone's job to help recruit members.
- Beginning in January, each member who does not buy a meal will pay a \$5 use fee to the hotel and may order coffee or iced tea.
- **Nalani Flynn** of the Rotary Club of Waianae Coast has been selected District Governor (DG) for 2017-2018.
- The "early bird" reduced fee for the District Conference expires on Dec. 31, 2014.
- There are still two openings for Rotarians interested in the Rotary Conference and tour to Taiwan.
- The Merrie Monarch parade will be on April 11, with East Hawaii Rotary clubs marching and **Kerry Glass** spearheading.
- **Hilo Brewfest III** is scheduled for June 13, 2015, at Wainaku Center. Beneficiaries will remain the same, Friends of the Children's Justice Center and the Hilo Medical Center Foundation. Save the date and be ready to respond when asked to volunteer!

Upcoming Events

Dec. 13 – Slots for volunteer bell ringers are booked from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the Salvation Army Bell Ringing at Prince Kuhio Plaza. The Club has adopted a family for the holidays via the Salvation Army with a goal of raising over \$400 to assist. (Mahalo plenty – a total of \$430 was raised.)

Dec. 17 - The Club will again host lost for seniors at Kamana, starting at 11 a.m.

Dec. 19 - The Club will have a basket for tips to support our wait staff. Come dressed for a party!

Dec. 26 & Jan. 2 -- There will be no Rotary meetings.

Jan. 14 -- **President Richard Johnson** will be back for the Board meeting.

Feb. 27, 28, and March 1 – **RYLA Camp!**

Celebrations

Kui Costa glowed as the Club sang "Happy Birthday" to her on her special day and gladly donated \$29 for her 29th birthday!

Jim Cheney shared that he's been in the Club twenty-six years (as of Dec. 8) and noted that "he's now in the first row!"

Mitch Roth was recognized in absentia for being honored as the VASH community partner of the year, with festive photos of **Mitch** and his wife **Noriko** with the plaque, **Mitch, Noriko**, and daughter **Alexandra** with the plaque, and **Mitch** with Rotarians attending the event on the cruise ship.

Birthdays:

Kui Costa December 12
Eddie Hara December 24
Gay Porter December 31

Club Anniversary:

Russ Oda December 2, 1966 (48)
Jim Cheney December 8, 1988 (26)
Steve Handy December 19, 2003 (11)

Wedding Anniversary:

Russ & Aki Oda Dec. 14 (62)
Ron & Glynnis Dolan Dec. 22 (41)
Wally & Malia Wong Dec. 22 (21)
Robert Fox & Nina Buchanan Dec. 27 (6)

Announcements:

Fri. December 19 - Cindy Boots
Holiday Cheer!!
Fri. December 26 - No Meeting
Fri. January 2 - No Meeting
Fri. January 9 - Kaohinani Miyashiro
Hope Services Hawaii
Fri. January 16 - Club Administrative Day

President Richard Johnson
President Elect Wally Wong
Immediate Past President Kerry Glass
Vice President Mitchell Dodo
Secretary Susan Munro
Treasurer Corey Kawamoto
Sergeant-at-Arms Cindy Boots
Membership Christina Dhillon
Public Relations Alberta Dobbe
Rotary Foundations Alan Kusunoki
Club Service Tom Brown
International Service Jenny Johnson
Community Service Misti Tyrin
Youth Service Glenn Harris
Vocational Service Biff Kennedy

Happy Dollars

Chris Tamm donated \$10 (to the **Hilo Rotary Club Foundation**) to share that **Barbara** and he would be traveling to Fiji and Vanuatu, with his best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year to all.

Susan Munro paid tribute (\$2) to **Treena Breyfogle** for being a "math wizard" and giving her the formula to calculate the dollars still needed for a Rotarian's going to the next **Paul Harris Foundation** level. (Check out the fine, italicized print in your individual summary report for "Your Contributions to The Rotary Foundation.")

Senator Lorraine Inouye gave sad-happy dollars (\$25 to the **HRCF** and \$25 to the **TRF**) to share that **Mitch Dodo** had been helpful when she called on him for the name of a mortician on Oahu who could help with her grand-nephew **Justin Saragosa's** funeral arrangements. (A "Hilo boy," he was a talented certified crane operator—but not on the crane that day, the day of the accident on Oahu.) She noted she would be attending the groundbreaking for the Pharmacy School in Hilo, that hotels would be booked on Hawaii Island in February for the IT convention, that Rotarians were invited to the open house on January 21 for the swearing in of the Opening of the Legislature and swearing in of new legislators, and that she would be serving as Vice Chair of the Higher Education Committee, as well as serve on the Money and Transportation Committees.

The Rotary Foundation (TRF)

Alan Kusunoki shared that contributions to the Foundation help with projects such as microfinancing, the giving of small loans to people who want to establish a business of their own. He then recognized **Chuck Porter** to receive his **PH+4** (four sapphires). **Chuck** donated \$20 to acknowledge the support of his benefactor, **Gay**, and to share news about their recent visit with his son and family in Utah.



Program

Kerry invited **Chris Tamm** to introduce our speaker, **Springer Kaye** (with **Kaye** pronounced like the letter K.) **Springer Kay** is the Manager of the Big Island Invasive Species Committee (BIISC). **Springer** is a graduate of Punahou School, holds a Bachelor's degree from Pomona College and Master of Science degree in Tropical Ecology from UH-Hilo. She lives on her family lychee farm in Honomu and has been working to protect Hawaii's natural resources since 1996. Plus, **Chris** has known her as his employee at Bay Lighting.

Springer's PowerPoint presentation started with basic definitions, including the terms alien, introduced, invasive, and native species. (Native species are those brought in by one of the 3 Ws, Wind, Wings, or Waves.) As stated in her introductory notes, "BIISC is one of five island-based partnerships working to address the most

harmful invasive species threats to the state's environment, economy, and way of life. BIISC focuses on early detection of new harmful pests, developing and sharing cost effective methods to control pests, and spurring communities and leaders to take action in proactive and meaningful ways."

The Committee has representatives of key federal, state, and county agencies and organizations dealing with conservation, including USFS, NPS, HDOA, UHH/USDA, and many others. Funding comes from various sources, most from the State via a competitive grant process, so there is always a "tug of war" between the projects desired by the funding source and the Committee's assessment of what should be its highest priority. She noted that limited resources resulted in a cut of the public outreach program last year but that the challenges with albizia due to the recent hurricane/tropical storm created an awareness of the potential threat to humans and native forests. ("Brittle dry dead wood instead of a live branch" causes far fewer problems, and herbicides can be used cost-effectively and quickly on albizia.)

"Early detection and rapid response" are essential for controlling invasive species. While some 50 potential targets have been identified, resources permit tackling only 6 species on Hawaii Island.

The Committee needs the assistance of the community in various ways, one of which is to give a well-trained team permission to check out invasive species on private property. (There is no liability to the private landowner.) It is also helpful if the public can submit testimony so that there can be effective policies to prevent and treat the spread of invasive species, and submitting testimony via the public access channels is cost-effective. She noted that the Committee can provide assistance and guidance to a team of five (a team captain and four volunteers) who want to work on a project in their own neighborhood.

There is only so much that the Committee can do. It really does take the assistance of the community. For more information, contact the hotline at 808-961-3298 or check out the website at www.biisc.org.

Questions and answers followed. Miconia is "too far gone" on Hawaii Island, covering acres of land, with the same story for coquis. Do coquis lower the mosquito count? There's no evidence to support that. Are coquis edible? Maybe!



In Closing.

Past President Kerry reminded us to be "holly jolly" for our meeting next week and called on **Past President Chuck Porter** to lead us in the **4-way test** of the things we think, say or do.

Photos by **Susan Munro**

Rotary Club of Hilo
Salvation Army "Bell Ringing Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014"

