



President Alan Kusunoki opened the meeting on the 335<sup>th</sup> day of the year. Dr. Rand Mundo lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Our talented President led us in singing *America the Beautiful*.

Rotarian Russ Oda spoke to the importance of a smile. Author unknown. *"It costs nothing, but creates much. It enriches those who receive, without impoverishing those who give. It happens in a flash and the memory of it sometimes last forever. None are so rich they can get along without it, and none so poor, but are richer for its benefits. It creates happiness, fosters good will in business, and is the countersign of friends. It is rest to the weary, daylight to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and is nature's best antidote for trouble. Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen, for it is something that is no earthly good to anyone until it is given away."*

Our greeters were Alberta Dobbe and Mike Robinson.



Alberta introduced our guests as follows: the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay – Richard Cunningham and Anita Cunningham; the Rotary Club of South Hilo – Cathy Hashimoto. Past President Joe Hanley Jr.

introduced his son Joe Hanley III visiting from South Carolina. Glenn Harris is a welcome repeat guest. Theresa English will be sponsoring Glenn as a new member of our club.

President Alan thanked Jim Kennedy and Kerry Glass for the photos for last week's Lava Flow. The reporter thanks Judy Gibson cookie baker extraordinaire. The chocolate peanut butter cookies you brought to our meeting were superb.

A CENTURY OF SERVICE: President Alan cited some of well known Rotarians of the 20<sup>th</sup> century: Neil Armstrong - astronaut, Sir Winston Churchill – prime minister, Walt Disney – animation filmmaker, Thomas A. Edison - inventor, Thor Heydal – explorer, John F Kennedy - president, Douglas MacArthur –army general, Dr. Charles H. Mayo - founder Mayo Clinic, Norman Vincent Peale – clergyman and author, James Cash Penney founder of J. C. Penney's, Earl Warren, supreme court justice, Orville Wright – aviation pioneer. Food for thought!

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Peace Forum is January 25 – 27<sup>th</sup> next year. Seven members of our club are attending the forum. The focus is youth. Five of the seven will be assigned as Sargeant of Arms. Would be interesting to note the average age of all attendees. The keynote speaker is a Nobel Laureate. The Salvation Army Bell Ringing is Saturday December 15<sup>th</sup> at Prince Kuhio Plaza. The District Conference is at Turtle Bay, May 17-19 – sign up now or before Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. Sign-up cost is \$25.

RC of Hilo Bay purchased the refrigerator for the Children's Justice Center by passing of the hat. Hats off to RC of Hilo Bay. Pau Hana Hump day is coming up on Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> @ 5PM at Cronies. Be there or be square.

President Alan announced the passing of our esteemed



Rotarian Joe Walsh Hanley Sr. His son, Joe Hanley Jr., our past president, contributed \$100 to the Wada Foundation. Joe spoke of his father Joe Sr. long history with our Rotary club's fellowship exchange with the Rotary Club of Hiroshima. Naomi Menor also contributed \$100 to the Wada Foundation

The Food Bank Event, "Have a Rice Day" is scheduled January 12<sup>th</sup>, 9AM – 3 PM. The options are to donate 20 # bag of rice or \$15.

John McVickar spoke to his concern for diabetes on the Big Island. He suggested money to purchase food items as another option to the rice donation. President Alan would like us out participating, and also handing out rice paddles that have our Rotary logo on them. Rotarians will staff the Sack n Save locations at Puainako and downtown. There will be other local clubs at other locations. Rotary Youth groups will be at the Foodland Keaau location. Make checks payable to "THE FOOD BANK".

BIRTHDAYS: Kui Costa 12/12

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: Today Russ and Aki Oda celebrate 60 years young. We asked Russ his secret to success. Russ shared, "stay young at heart, requires we have patience, a sense of humor, always support each other and keep the spice ( a little kinkiness is good)". Russ donated \$1000 to the Paul Harris Foundation toward his grandson's Paul Harris Fellowship.



CLUB ANNIVERSARIES: Jim Cheney joined Dec. 08, 1988 (sponsor Harris Hirata). Steve Yoshida joined our club Dec. 11, 2009 (sponsor Russ Oda).

**Birthdays:**

Kui Costa December 12  
Ed Hara December 24  
Vivian Birchall December 27  
Gay Porter December 31

**Club Anniversary:**

Russ Oda December 2  
Jim Cheney December 8  
Steve Yoshida December 11  
Ted Dixon December 19  
Steve Handy December 19

**Wedding Anniversary:**

Russ & Aki Oda December 2  
Ron & Glynnis Dolan December 22  
Wally & Malia Wong December 23

President .....	Alan Kusunoki
President Elect .....	Kerry Glass
Vice President .....	Alberta Dobbe
Immediate Past President .....	Joe Hanley
Secretary .....	Richard Johnson
Treasurer .....	William Dolan
Sergeant-at-Arms .....	John McVickar
Attendance .....	Judy Gibson
Club Administration .....	Tom Brown
Service Projects .....	Mitchell Dodo
Rotary Foundations .....	Susan Munro
Membership .....	Nancy Cabral
Public Relations .....	Robert Hanley
International Service .....	Steve Yoshida
Community Service .....	Wallace Wong
Vocational Service .....	Bobby Stivers-Apiki
New Generations .....	Gail Takaki
Club Service .....	Tim Beatty
The Rotary Foundation .....	Susan Munro
Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation ..	Mitchell Dodo
Hilo Rotary Club Foundation .....	John McVickar

The Rotary Membership was presented with slate of officers for 2013.

President: **Kerry Glass**  
Vice-President: **Alberta Dobbe**  
President-Elect: **Richard Johnson**  
Secretary: **Susan Munro**  
Treasurer: **Corey Kawamoto**  
Sergeant-At-Arms: **Cindy Boots**  
Club Services: **Tom Brown**  
Service Projects: **Mitchell Dodo**  
Foundations: **Alan Kusunoki**  
Public Relations: **Bob Hanley**  
Membership: **Nancy Cabral**

The membership approved and selected to date. **HAPPINESS MONEY: Chris Tamm** is \$20 happy to be traveling to Australia to Cairns. **Theresa English** contributed \$50 toward the **Paul Harris Fellowship** with points from both **Helen Hemmes** and **John McVickar** to give her a boost. **Jeannine Atebara** is \$100 happy Hawaii United Way is at 50% of the Big Island's \$1.2 Million goal. **Jeanne** is especially happy both her daughters graduated this year as Pharmacists and have jobs in their field of study. **Alberta Dobbe** is \$5 happy about the refrigerator donation to the Friends of the Children's Justice Center. **Helen Hemmes** is \$1 happy, she enjoyed the delicious spaghetti luncheon event at the Kamana Senior Center put on by our Rotarians. **Mike Robinson** is \$10 happy because both the Energy Project and the "C" section harvesting of trees are progressing forward. **Bobby Stivers-Apiki** is \$20 happy YMCA sold 471 trees, and again thanked **Susan Munro** and **Kerry Glass** volunteered for this YMCA event. **Jim Kennedy** is \$20 happy for his alma mater the Florida Gators going to the Sugar Bowl.

**Mike Robinson** agreed to being our impromptu speaker, and talked about his experience, as a Pennsylvania boy who had volunteered for the Peace Corps. He headed to West Africa and Liberia in the 70's where they spoke 23 languages and had many tribes and cultures. **Mike** went by bus to a remote location. He felt like he was in a Tarzan movie where they filed their teeth. Three weeks into his stay, there was a July 4<sup>th</sup> party and he went on a motorcycle ride to town. The town had four general stores basically just mud and stick houses. He walked into a house after dark. He saw a Baboon, and thought he saw it change its shape to a witch. **Mike** was told by locals that when the bat flew in and flew out three times, it



Photos by **Alberta Dobbe**

meant that a witch sent the bat to tell you not to worry? He described he felt as if he had a chicken skin experience. I can't even retell this strange story correctly. The message is "everything will be okay."

Both **Sally O'Brien** and **President Alan** both related to **Mike Robinson's** experience as they also were Peace Corps volunteers.

**Sally O'Brien** got up and briefly spoke. **Sally** grew up in South Dakota and in 1961, after 10 weeks training at San Francisco State University, she was sent to the Phillipines; **Sally** volunteered in Mindenau (which is the location of the very recent Typhoon.) **Mike, Sally** and **Alan** agreed their time with the Peace Corps changed their lives.



The next Rotary Meeting will be January 11, 2013.

**Happy Holidays to you and your family.**

**Jim Cheney** closed our meeting reciting the **Four-Way Test**.