



Rotary News *Lava* FLOW

December 21, 2012 92 YEARS OF SERVICE Reporter: Cindy Boots

The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo

"Twas 3 days before Christmas, and all through the room, Rotarians were gathered to share a few tunes".



President Kusunoki welcomed all with good cheer and **Past President Stew Hussey** led the membership in The Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed to honor the passing of

Senator Daniel K. Inouye, and as a sign of respect for the Senators' love for America and what it stands for, the crowd joined in singing our *National Anthem*.

President Alan passed forward a letter of condolences sent to the club by sister club, The Rotary Club of Hiroshima South. **Reverend Tom Olcott** shared an inspiring passage from Luke 2:8-14 with a message that God comes to all people, no matter what race, sex, status or denomination.

Greeters for the day were **Bob Hanley** and **Kui Costa**, and

Kui stepped up to the mike to introduce visitors. **Rev. Tom Olcott** joyously brought his wife **Lois** to share in this last Rotary meeting of 2012. **Dr. Rand Mundo** hosted our Rotary Exchange student **Fern Tanburana**, and **Cathy Hashimoto** joined the meeting crowd, visiting from the Rotary Club of South Hilo.



Lychemama (Theresa English) was thanked for her reporting of the 12/14 Lava, and **Alberta Dobbe** was also thanked for her last minute work as our photographer, stepping in for **Stew Hussey** who'd forgotten to show up. **Stew** took a few moments (as usual) to explain his absence, and then gave a generous **\$100** check to The Rotary Foundation. He noted the sadness of hearing about the shooting in Pakistan at the clinic where the workers were distributing Polio shots.

Announcements:



***Peace Forum Jan 25-27.** A brochure of the schedule of events for the Forum was circulated, and would also be e-mailed to all members. The club members are encouraged to sign up to participate in this groundbreaking event.

***Salvation Army Bell-ringing** was a rollicking event on Saturday 12/15, with lots of great singing from club members and family members too. When asked how she'd enjoyed participating, our exchange student **Fern Tanabura** gave out a hearty "Awesome!" that brought chuckles from every table.

***The District 5000 Rotary Conference** will be held at Turtle Bay on Oahu this year, May 17-19. If members sign up prior to Dec 31, registration is just \$25.00 per person instead of \$50.00.

***"Have a Rice Day"** statewide Rotary Rally will be held Jan 12, 2013. Our club will be collecting contributions at the Pu'ainako Sack and Save, from 9AM-3PM. Please sign up with **Wally Wong** to take a shift. We're asking for either 20# bags of rice or a monetary contribution of \$15. (the money goes directly to the Food Bank, and \$9.00 of food can be bought for every \$1 donated, so monetary contributions are very welcome) Please make out checks to The Food Bank or The Food Pantry (either one will work fine, and so will just plain old green money too)

***A new Rotary brochure** has been printed to help Rotary become more well-known in the business world and to help promote new memberships within communities. The brochure is an insert in the Hawaii Business Magazine.

***Applications for the Rotary Global Scholar Grant** (previously know as Ambassadorial Scholarship) are still available in case anyone knows someone who might be a good candidate for the grant. For additional information contact **Alan Kusunoki** regarding who can qualify. Applications must be submitted by January 31, 2013.

***There will be a Strategic Planning** meeting for The Rotary Club of Hilo on Saturday February 9th. This is planned for a 3 hour meeting with time also for lunch. It is a project that requires all Rotary Clubs to complete a 3 year plan of what the club sets as goals to accomplish in the future. More details will follow in early 2013. Please plan to attend so our club can establish a path forward to success in our community.

***Please note:** If you plan to attend the **South Hilo Club's** meetings in the future, a \$5 fee will be charged at the door.

Recognitions and Club Anniversaries:

Ted Dixon and **Steve Handy** both share Dec 19th as their club anniversaries. A great photo of **Kui Costa** was highlighted on the front page of the Hawaii Tribune Herald back in November, showing her participating in feeding the homeless on Thanksgiving Day with helpers from the **Waiakea High School Interact Club**. Being a good sport about the "spotlighting", **Kui** volunteered the last **\$13.00** in her purse to the **Hilo Rotary Club Foundation**. Next up on the showcase was a photo of **Nancy Cabral** out of the recent Hawaii Business Magazine highlighting Nancy's Day-Lum Business, and **Nancy** gave a nice check for **\$100** to the **Hilo Rotary Club Foundation** for the recognition she'd received.

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

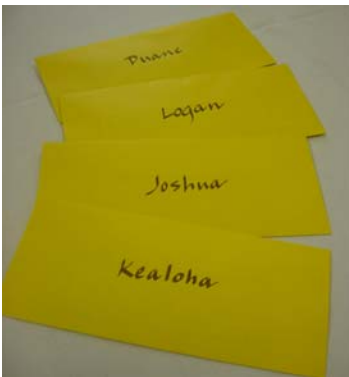
Wedding Anniversary:

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

Happiness \$\$:

Judy Gibson made sure to catch all Rotarians for monetary donations to be given to



our Hilo Hawaiian weekly servers who know us all well enough to remember each week if we take coffee, (decaf or regular) tea (ice or hot) and always meet our needs with pleasant smiles and service. A total of \$446.00 was collected for the staff.

*Mike Robinson had 5 happy \$ to have survived the predictions of the world ending on December 21, and also for he and his family's upcoming trip to the Florida Keyes where they'll all be spending the next 18 days enjoying themselves through the holiday season.

Another check from Nancy Cabral was given for \$20 to the RYLA camp coming up in March. Our club is hoping to raise enough donations to sponsor about 14 students for the 3 day camp. The cost per student runs \$175.00. Lorraine Inouye gladly gave a check for \$150 to The Rotary Foundation, and was sorry that her hubby had done such a great job of marketing their flowers that there were none left to spare to bring as holiday fundraiser table decorations.

Corey Kawamoto quietly slipped his \$20 donation for the Food Bank, "Have a Rice Day" event to Wally Wong who is chairing the event on Jan 12th. (please don't forget to bring your donations to our January 11th meeting if you'll be unable to help with collecting on the 12th)

Vocational talk –Getting to know more about you!



Rev. Tom Olcott shared his vocational stories with the membership. Tom and his family were living in Hartford, Conn at the time of the Great Circus Fire which consumed the circus, it's

tents, employees and many of the folks who were attending that day. Tom and his Mom and Dad were among the crowds and nearly perished themselves that day. In the aftermath of the horrible disaster, Tom's parents assisted in aiding and housing many more unfortunate victims. As Tom helped his parents and assisted these needy people, he discovered himself drawn to his profession to serve God and help people.

Tom enrolled in The Hartford Seminary in Hartford, CT, studied Advanced Pastoral Studies and from there attended Andover Newton Theological School in Newton Centre, MA. He spent time at Boston City Hospital and Worcester State Hospital where he experienced some situations that were right in line with the popular movie at the time, "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest". Tom had met and dated his wife Lois in high school when they were both in their teens, they married in 1965, and celebrated their 47th anniversary this past May. Throughout Tom's years of service to the Lord, Tom has served in many states, from New Jersey in the 1970's where he advocated for Gay and Lesbian rights and was fired for his early insight into the future, to Elizabeth NJ where he became "allergic" to the city due to the pollution created by local industries, and then spent a lot of time and energy in the Cleveland Ohio area. He's was instrumental in establishing a Major Hunger Program in 1985 to shelter and feed the homeless women and children, and this shelter has continued to grow and expand throughout the last 27 years. This same program has expanded to also house a Youth Program, has 1,400 volunteers and has a year-round budget of \$3 Million. He also developed a Literacy Program in the greater Cleveland area that serves over 750 children each year in more than 18 denominations. Tom's service as a Pastor has taken him and his family to many cities and states in need, where he's continued to strive to develop programs to assist the communities for both spiritual and bodily needs. He has also continued his education whenever possible, and traveled to interesting areas such as Aruba on his Sabbaticals.

He and his family accepted the position as Pastor of The Church of the Holy Cross here in Hilo in 2004, and Tom joined the Rotary Club of Hilo in 2006. He's also developed several other fun and unique professions over the years such as a very special Magician with a whole repertoire of tricks, and also performing as a Santa Claus to earn extra cash during college. (it seems he went to meet not yet wife, Lois at the train, and she rebuffed him as a dirty old Santa trying to pick her up, so he must have been pretty authentic that she didn't recognize him!)



Photos by Helen Hemmes

Tom also paints beautifully, and has donated several paintings in the past to our Emballers Ball Silent Auctions (Thank you **Tom** for your generosity). This reporter can tell that **Rev. Tom** is an awesome speaker, as he gave his entire presentation without any notes at all.

To wrap up this last meeting of 2012, the membership was led in several holiday songs by **President Alan** and **Dirk Yoshina**.

There were Lords and Ladies Leaping, a few kinds of calling birds, gold rings and even some squid popped up in the modified rendition of the 12 days of Christmas.

A huge round of applause was given to **Judy**



Gibson for her delicious donation of her home-baked cookies for an added treat to the desert selection. With lots of good cheer, and many smiling faces, **Judy Gibson** helped close the meeting by leading everyone in the **4 Way Test**. And now, "**Merry Christmas to all, and to all a Good Night!!**"

Have a safe and healthy holiday season, and welcome in the New Year with joy and enthusiasm.

Please note, the next meeting for The Rotary Club of Hilo will be January 11th, 2013.



**Kamana Senior Center
Holiday Luncheon
December 12, 2012**

