



The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo

It was an absolutely beautiful sunny day in Hilo, Hawaii. As we have done for 94 years, Hilo Rotarians gathered together for fellowship and "Service above Self" in a bustling Hilo Hotel. Greeted with a smile, warm handshake and hug by Greeters Susan "not Glass" Munro, and Kerry "not Munro" Glass, the Hilo Rotarians happily accepted their badges and prepared to enjoy the feast prepared by the chefs of the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel.



President Richard "not Jenny" Johnson was



excited as usual and ready for the task by ringing the bell. He then called on Alberta "not Gillis" Dobbe to lead us in the Pledge of



Allegiance. Then he asked us to sit down and pay attention to words of wisdom from none other than Mitchell "Morty" Dodo. We were inspired Thanks **Morty!**

President Richard "not Jenny" Johnson called



up Greeter Susan "not Glass" Munro, and Kerry "not Monro" Glass to introduce our guests." Visiting us from the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay were Chester "not Nancy" Cabral.

We were also honored by the presence of Marshall



"not George" C. Scott of Moreno Valley Morning Rotary Club, in Moreno Valley California. Aloha **Marshall!** Bob "not Joe" Hanley brought a Guest Donnie Demuth. Aloha **Donnie!** **Pres-**

elect Wally "Hokulea" Wong introduced our guest speaker Susan Cordell.

Da Prez announced that we were in the middle of RYLA at Kilauea Military Camp and thanked Gail "Furu" Takaki for being up there. He announced that Saturday Night was Project Kokua Dinner, a benefit for the Puna lava damage relief. He still needed volunteers to help. March 7 is the Hilo Heart Walk, contact Kerry "not Monro" Glass to walk. March 11 is a board meeting at Hilo Rice Noodle, and members are also invited. March

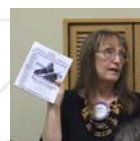
12 is the Chili and Dessert Social Dinner, all should come because there is no meeting on March 13. On March 13, the UHH Roteract club will participate in the "Relay for Life" event. On March 14, the Interact Club will hold a Garage Sale, please contact Yoko "not Ono" Hayano for details. March 28 is a Rotary Park work day. Please see Mike "not Swiss Family" Robinson. April 3 is Good Friday, so no meeting. April 10 Biff "not Jim" Kennedy is looking for businesses to host that day. On May 9 there is a District 5000 Assembly at the Kamehameha School Cafeteria, see **Pres-elect Wally "Hokulea" Wong**. Wow, a lot to look forward to, that's how you Light Up Rotary! Far out man! Thanks for the reminders **Prez!**



We tried to celebrate the birthdays of Dr. Wayne "root canal" Atebara, and Naomi "traveling" Menor, but neither were here. Lorraine "Senator" Inouye celebrated 29 years of marital bliss. Bob "home exchange" Fox celebrated 31 years with the club, and Eddie "printman" Hara celebrated 28 years with the club. Wow. We have 72 members and we need more! Remember we will cover their lunch and you can score Paul Harris Points!



Boy was the club **happy**. Marcia "Palace" Prose



announced the March Palace lineup. They are looking for amateur musicians to play in their March concert.

Lorraine "BJ" Shin was happy to host a birthday bash for her hubby and even sang us a song! Chris "not Barbara" Tamm was happy to be going to Panama for vacation. Glenn "not Paul" Harris was have a healthy mother. South Hilo Past President Doug Adams was happy that he sold all his Project Kokua tickets! Alberta "not Gillis" Dobbe was happy to give money to Steve "Subway" Handy's Fiji project. Guest Chester "not Nancy" Cabral was happy to ask our club members to help their club paint the Homeless Shelter this



Birthdays:

Helen Hemmes February 8
Jimmy Yagi February 18
Lorraine Shin February 20
Wayne Atebara February 23
Naomi Menor February 23
Jim Cheney February 28

Club Anniversary:

Toshi Aoki February 1, 2002 (13)
Chuck Porter February 4, 1994 (21)
Bobby Stivers-Apiki February 9, 2007 (8)
Helen Hemmes February 13, 1988 (27)
Dirk Yoshina February 14, 1992 (23)
Robert Fox February 24, 1984 (31)
Eddie Hara February 27, 1987 (28)

Wedding Anniversary:

Biff & Anna Kennedy February 4 (49)
Lorraine & Vern Inouye February 21 (29)

Announcements:

March 6 - Club Assembly
March 12 - Chili Social & Club Assembly
 Wailoa State Park
March 13 - No Meeting
March 20 - Michael Chung
 Salvation Army Family Intervention Center
March 27 - Rhonda Harris-Heart Ranch
 Building Confidence - Developing Leadership
 in Youth
April 3 - No Meeting (Good Friday)
April 10 - Business Visitations
April 17 - David Lillis - Toshiba America
 Technological communications

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

Saturday.

Cindy "Go Packers" Boots then introduced our Guest Speaker **Susan Cordell**, a research ecologist from the U.S. Forest Service. **Susan** has a B.A. degree in Aquatic Biology from UC Santa Barbara and spent time in the Philippines as a member of the Peace Corps. She then received her Ph.D. from UH Manoa in Botany. She works at the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry in Hilo. The focus of her research is on the conservation, preservation and restoration of tropical island ecosystems.



The scientists at IPIF develop knowledge and tools that support conservation and restoration of biological diversity across all lands, including the identification of current and future conservation challenges and climate adaptation approaches. Current research seeks to:

- Understand invasive species impacts on forest biodiversity
- Identify biocontrol of invasive plant species that impact native ecosystems
- Investigate restoration techniques for tropical ecosystems
- Assess sea-level rise impacts on coastal/mangrove forests and Pacific Island communities.

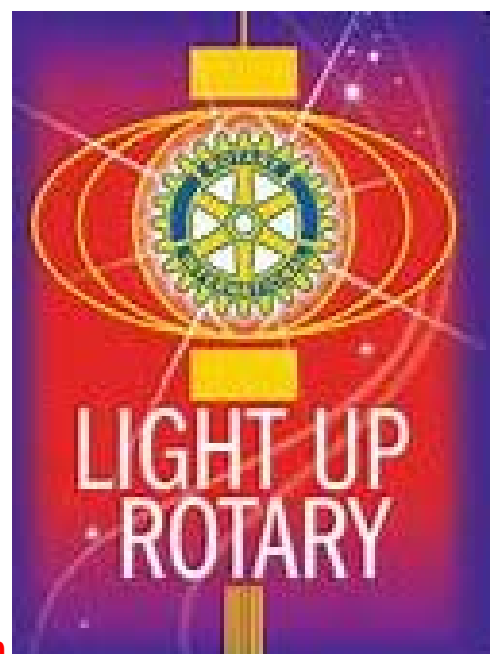


Susan focuses her studies on Ecosystem level impacts of invasive grasses on Hawaiian dry forest ecosystems. She studies the mechanisms by which fountain grass

limits Hawaiian dry forest native plant establishment and growth by manipulating fountain grass, available water, and available light separately and in concert. She also researches functional ecology and phenology of dry forest canopy trees and is investigating the role that native plant reforestation plays in reducing fine fuel load hazards and reversing the cumulative adverse ecosystem level effects of monotypic stands of invasive grasses in leeward Hawaii. She also studies the impacts of invasive species on lowland forest ecosystem processes, specifically, rainfall interception, plant water use and acquisition, light availability and plant productivity. Wow, thank you **Susan** for all that you do and for enlightening our Rotary Club with your research. For more questions on her research you can contact her at scordell@fs.fed.us.

And before you know it, **President Richard "not Jenny" Johnson** thanked **Susan Kordel** and gave her a fantastic Rotary lava cup.

He then called upon a mysterious rotarian to lead us in the **4-Way Test** of the things we think, say and do. And then we were out of there and that's a fact Jack!



Photos by **Chris Tamm**