



Rotary News **Lava FLOW**

February 6, 2015

94 Years of Service

Reporter: Jean S.

The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo

The Lunar New Year is almost here, and to kick things off, we were all warmly greeted by **Steve Handy** and **Tim Beatty**.



After **Coach James Yagi** led us in the pledge, **Corey Kawamoto** claimed a bad case of laryngitis.

Lisa Rantz graciously inspired us in his stead. Rural Residency Program (HB 847)

Lisa reminded us that while charity efforts abroad are important, it is essential that we support charity at home. With this in mind, she asked our members to support the current bill that would increase state funding for the primary care residency program to \$3.6M (\$1.6M more than Governor Ige's proposed \$2M). **Lisa** passed out template letters for those members who wanted to support the bill. She will be presenting them to the House Health Committee on Tuesday, Feb 10, when the bill gets its second hearing. The goal is to set the funding level so that the Hilo Medical Center and other neighbor island healthcare providers do not have to go back to lobby for additional funding every year. Thanks to **Lisa** for giving us this opportunity to participate.



Thanks to the dynamic duo of **Susan Munro** and **Kerry Glass** for the Jan 23rd Lava Flow, and to **Jim Cheney** and **Chris Tamm** for the tri-club meeting Jan 28th Lava Flow.

Tim Beatty introduced our numerous visitors and guests. From our sister clubs, **Anita Cunningham** from Hilo Bay; **Doug Adams** and **Arabel Cambor** from South Hilo were welcomed. **Richard Johnson** introduced **Lyndon Honda**, the owner of Laulima Events and Catering on Maui, who is organizing Project Kokua. **Linda** and **Jim Bauer** from Richland, Washington were visiting from the Tri City area as part of the Rotary's travel host program. **Steve Handy** introduced **Angela Yablonski** from Vernon, British Columbia. **Richard** also introduced his guest, **Lisa Sweeney**. **Wally Wong** introduced special guests **Kaiulani Murphy** and **Kawai**, his fellow shipmates from the Hokule'a, and **Nancy Cabral** introduced **Nancy Guthrie** from her hometown in California.



Mike Meyers, our newest member, was proudly introduced by **Jim Cheney**, his sponsor.

New Member - **Michael Meyers**

All the members gave **Mike**, our 71st member, a warm welcome. We all look forward to his energy and participation in our club's efforts this year.

Board Meeting

Feb 11th 5:00pm at Hilo Rice Noodle
All club members are welcome to attend.

RYLA

Feb 27th to March 1st

Gail Takaki has been hard at work on the program for our annual youth event (**Rotary Youth Leadership Awards**). She reminded us that while the focus is on 10th and 11th graders, it's the ninth graders who are such a pleasant surprise. They are truly fearless, and show such tremendous leadership, that they are often invited back as facilitators the following year. This year we have identified 10 students to attend. If you weren't at the meeting, it's not too late to donate any amount to help send these future leaders to **RYLA**. It costs **\$175** to fully fund a single student participant, and we're about halfway there.



Special thanks to **Gail** and our fellow rotarians: **Judy Gibson**, **Alan Kusunoki**, **Kui Costa**, and **Kathleen McGilvray**—for contributing their time and energy to offer training sessions and serve as ohana group leaders for the weekend.

All are welcome at Kilauea Military Camp at noon on Saturday Feb 28th to go on a hike and help with the ginger eradication effort.

Project Kokua for Hawaii Island 2.0

Sat, Feb 28th 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Hilo Hawaiian Hotel
\$50 plus 1 canned good

Chef Lyndon Honda's friend jarred him into action when he posted on his page that after disasters in the Philippines there were so many outreach efforts from Hawaii, but when tropical storm Iselle hit in our backyard there wasn't the same focus. So **Lyndon** organized 28 Maui chefs for Project Kokua 1.0, and with the help of Maui Rotary clubs and the Pahoia Sunset

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:

February 13 - Club Administration Day
February 20 - Rachele Hennings
Big Island TV
February 27 - Susan Cordell
Research Ecologist Forest Service
Coqui Frogs, living with and without them!

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

Rotary club, they raised **\$28,414**. These donations went to help the farmers who were impacted.

Project Kokua 2.0 is focused on helping the Puna/Pahoa community that has suffered through the unpredictable lava flows from the East Rift zone. The goal is **\$20,000**, and **Lyndon** is reaching out to businesses on the Big Island, Oahu, and Maui to get them to match dollar-for-dollar in the hope that the total will be \$100,000.

There will be 14 chefs including a number from Hilo (Café Pesto, Seaside, Hilo Hawaiian hotel, Aloha Lehua, Short and Sweet), chefs from Hualalai and Maui. There will also be a silent auction, and special music.

Richard Johnson requested a volunteer to help coordinate the ticket sales for our club. Please contact him if you can help.



Hilo Heart Walk and Pledge

March 7th from 6:30 to 10:30am at Liliuokalani Gardens

Registration opens at 6:30am. Walk begins at 8:00am.

There's still room if you would like to participate in the walk. Please make out your pledge checks to the American Heart Association and give them to **Kerry Glass**.

Chili and Dessert Social

March 12th from 5:30 to 8:30 pm – Wailoa Park

This social takes the place of our regular meeting.

Waiakea High School Interact Garage Sale

March 14th from 7 to 11am at **Yoko Hayano's** house

Yoko requests that you contact her to drop off any big items. Small items can be brought to our March 6th meeting (since we have no meeting on the 13th). **Yoko** needs our help to tag all the items and arrange them, so please volunteer and contact her directly.

Big Island International Marathon

March 15th from 6 to 9 am
Onomea Bay Overlook on the scenic drive in Papaikou T-Shirt included.

Contact **Kerry Glass** if you're interested **Russ Oda's** cellphone ringtone (his grandson's voice saying "grandpa") was the BEST.

District 5000 East Hawaii Assembly

Kamehameha Schools
May 9th from 8 am to 1pm
Wally encourages all of us to attend so we can learn more about building an

In the News

Richard thanked all the club members who participated in the **Rotary Park Work Day** on February 1st. Many thanks to **Mike Robinson** for stepping up and coordinating this multi-club effort.

Our own **Celestine Ruwethin** accepted a check for **\$6,000** from Homestreet Bank to benefit the Salvation Army.

And, the Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii will be honoring our own **Joe Hanley** for his contributions to the group for the last 25 years.

Celebrations

Although there were no birthdays this past week, there were two wedding anniversaries. **Biff** and **Anna Kennedy** have been together for 49 years, and **Alberta** celebrated her long and happy marriage to **Morris** for 55 years. Today marked their 61st anniversary.



Nancy Cabral celebrated her 27 year club anniversary (she joined as a teenager).

Richard and **Jenny Johnson** marked their six year anniversary. **Toshi** remarked that he has always been happy with this club for 13 years, and we missed **Chuck Porter** who celebrated his 21st club anniversary.

All of us extend our heartfelt sympathy to **Sandra Song** on the passing of her stepdaughter, **Lisa Ann Song**, earlier this week. **Richard** noted that it is a reminder to us to cherish family every day.

Happy Dollars



Alberta Dobbe -- **\$20**. Our public relations director thanked **Susan**, **Cindy**, and **Kerry** for helping put together the news article celebrating our

Photos by **Kerry Glass**

club's donation to HOPE services.



Marcia -- \$5 -- You can still buy a \$30 ticket to the Makaha Sons Valentine's Day performance. Two of the movies showing at the Palace this month (Foxcatcher and Whiplash) earned 5 Academy Award nominations each. Go and enjoy this wonderful local entertainment spot.



John McVickar, Nancy Cabral, Jean Sugiyama, and Kathleen McGilvray - \$175 each to send 4 of our 10 WHS students to this year's RYLA camp. Thanks to **Gail** for all her hard work on RYLA, and to all the other members who make this camp possible.



Mike Robinson \$10 – **Rotary Work Day** was a huge multi-club success, and a lot of hard, physical work.

Lisa Rantz -- \$20 happy to be welcomed back



Wally's sharing of his Hokule'a adventure. If you weren't at the meeting, you missed out on **Wally Wong's** beautifully voiced Hawaiian chant. This same chant was sung in greeting when the Hokule'a landed at its various destinations. **Ka'iulani Murphy** and **Kawai Warren** were **Wally's** two special guests.

(Note: Please forgive my spelling errors; I did not have a chance to check with **Wally**, but I will when I post his presentation on our website). **Ka'iulani** was the main navigator on **Wally's** portion of the Hokule'a journey.

Wally has been part of the Polynesian Voyaging Society since 1992, and we were fortunate enough to share in part of his experiences of the Malama Honua Worldwide Voyage. This voyage began in 2013, Hokule'a and Hikianalia sailed around the Hawaiian archipelago. It continued in 2014 with stops in Aotearoa, Samoa, and Tahiti. In 2017 the voyage will culminate when the new generation of navigators will bring the canoes back to Hawaii from Panama after covering 47,000 nautical miles, 85 ports, and 26 countries. The focus of the journey is stewardship of the ocean and sustainable living.

Wally's leg of the Hokule'a journey was from Samoa to Aotearoa. **Wally's** leg started off in Samoa, from Pago Pago located on the island of Tutuila.

"It's a very beautiful island; life is slow and easy there and the people are very friendly. Our scheduled departure was delayed because of commitments to a departure ceremony with the lieutenant governor, so we used the time to meet the National Marine Sanctuary team. We were able to teach the communities about ocean transportation, and we learned from each other. We also got to see more of the sights. The local transportation buses will take you anywhere for \$2; you just jump on and off. The local wildlife is flighty – lots and lots of fruit bats. Charlie Tuna is one of the local celebrities

there."

"We were all happy when we were able to depart, because one of the major concerns when we were on land was contracting illness (for example, chikungunya virus transmitted by mosquitoes). Our navigators wanted to make sure that we would have sufficient wind to leave so we didn't get stuck outside. The canoes would be towed out to the wind line and we would start sailing from there."

The first leg of the American Samoa to Aotearoa was pretty rough--the only time we had squalls on our voyage. We made it to Va va'u Island, the first island in the Tongan chain. This was the first time that Hokule'a made it to this community, so everyone was excited.

One of our crewmembers, **Kalisi Mausio**, is from Va va'u Island. Her dad runs 'Ene'io Botanical Gardens, a wonderful place that teaches visitors about plants and their uses. He built trails in the garden: Hokulea Avenue and Hikianalea Way dedicated to our arrival, and we were able to help plant.

Kalisi raises funds to buy canoes and paddles, and sends them back to her dad. He teaches the kids how to paddle their canoes and how to swim. A lot of the kids in Tonga and Samoa don't know how to swim. When I was in American Samoa, the Rotary Club there just built a pool to teach the kids there how to swim.

When we arrived at Tongatapu, we were greeted by singing and dancing, and we were able to visit Ha'amonga'a Maui. Maui was the Hawaiian navigator. He brought fire and slowed down the sun. According to legend Maui built this structure as a representation of Orion's belt. In Tonga, when you see Orion rising, you know that the days will get longer.

When we met with different community leaders, they shared how their awa ceremonies are set up, and the way they correspond to the different navigational constellations."

The living conditions on the canoe were challenging. You had to be careful when you rinsed off after a shower to avoid portugeuse man-of-war. Sleeping quarters were in the hull, and you had to like eating fish, but the night watches were fantastic. There were three different shifts, and Wally stood watch on the 10 pm to 2 am shift. You had to always be aware of your surroundings, but the night skies were full of stars.

Helene Tajiri led us in the **4 way test**.

