



Rotary News *Lava* FLOW

February 28, 2014

94 Years of Service

Reporter: Jim Kennedy

The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo

President **Kerry Glass** called the meeting to order and invited **Connie Kurohara** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance, which she did in great style.

Inspiration

Theresa English shared **Frederick Buechner's** thoughts on life and living, pointing out that, like it or not, we each have but one life on Earth. So, we would be fools if we don't live it as fully, beautifully, and bravely as possible.



Visiting Rotarians

There were no visiting Rotarians.

Guest of Rotarians

President **Kerry** acknowledged **Stew Hussey** and **Lorraine Shin** for greeting members and their guests. **Stew** called on **Treena Breyfogle** who introduced our guest speakers, **Annamari Dietrichson** and **Stephanie Kovatch**. **Lorraine Inouye** introduced her guest, **Barbara Banks** from Denver. Finally, **Jim**



Cheney introduced his, not often seen, son **Durian Cheney**.

Announcements

President **Kerry** noted the untimely passing of long-time member **Aki Watanabe**. **Aki** joined the Hilo Rotary Club on October 17, 1969, and he will be missed. Services will be held on March 30th at the Dodo Mortuary. The family has requested no flowers. Members wishing to make a memorial donation are invited to consider the Rotary Club of Hilo Foundation, the Hilo Hongwanji, or the Hilo Boys and Girls Club.

In the following discussion, an embarrassed **President Kerry** admitted, just that morning, he realized that **Jerry Watanabe** was not **Aki's** son, but only after **Kerry** gave his condolences to **Jerry** for the "loss of his father".

President **Kerry** thanked scribe **Theresa English** and photographer **Chris Tamm**, as well as Coordinator **Tammy Silva** and publisher **Ed Hara** for the previous week's great Lava Flow.

Going down the list of upcoming events, **President Kerry** pointed out that the **RYLA** camp was the coming weekend and thanked **Gail Takaki** for your leadership and all the volunteers making it possible. **Alan Kusunoki** announced that he had adequate coverage for the graveyard chaperone shift.

Wally Wong still needs eight more Heart Walkers for the March 16th, to meet their \$2,000 goal. **Richard Johnson** noted that **East Hawai'i District assembly** will be that same day, from 8 AM to 3 PM at Kamehameha School in Kea'au (then he mumbled something about it being more fun).

The **Hilo Rotary Work Day** project at the Salvation Army facility will be April 19th. It will be a fun day painting to spruce up the exterior of the building. **Wally Wong** and **Cel Ruwethin** are taking point on the project.

The **Five-Club steak fry** in honor of the visiting Aussie RFE team will be on Thursday April 24th. (There will be no "regular" Club meeting on Friday the 25th.)

There are 15 people signed up as Hilo Club marchers in the April 26th Merrie Monarch parade. There is plenty of room for more. There is still time to order "the tee shirt", but the tee shirt is not a requirement to join the marchers. (**President Kerry** did caution that law requires wearing "something".)

The **District 5000 Conference** will be held at Turtle Bay May 2nd - 4th. This is the same weekend as the South Hilo Club's Hilo Huli.

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Club Anniversaries

Wayne Atebara and **Naomi Menor** recently celebrated birthdays. **Jim Cheney's** birthday was this very day, and he donated \$20 to the Club. **Bob Fox's** Rotary 30th Rotary anniversary also was noted a few weeks ago. **Eddie Hara** celebrated his 26 years in Rotary this week.



Happy Dollars

When **Happy Dollars** was announced **Chuck Porter** leapt to his feet to spin a less than credible yarn about spending three weeks at a dealer meeting that somehow involved going hunting. During which, **Gay** lost her drivers license and then, on her own, struggled mightily through airport security checks without it, just to get home. Then somehow, **Chuck** ended up racing down an LA freeway in a new truck. He stayed overnight in Long Beach and went to dinner in a seedy taqueria protected by two layers of bullet proof glass surrounded by a bevy of barely dressed "honeys". While making a generous \$40 donation, someone was heard saying that they would have preferred to listen to **Stew Hussey** run on.



Lorraine Inouye left her hubby behind to host a gaggle of family guests while she went to Las Vegas with her brother. She had a good time and contributed \$100 to **The Rotary Foundation**.

Glenn Harris read a delightful letter from one of Read to Me literacy-project teachers, reporting that, after **Helene Tajiri's** presentation of *Don't Let The Pigeon Drive The Bus*, the kids reread the story together over again several times in the next couple of days. **Glenn** gave \$20 to the literacy project. Renowned literary critic **President Kerry** commented (to a booing and hissing audience) that he still didn't see the attraction of the story.



Before a riot could break out, an amused **Mitchell Dodo** told a story about one of the kids he had been reading to. The boy complimented **Mitchell** by saying, "I really like your shiny head. Are you bald?" **Mitchell** added another \$5 to the literacy project.



Helene Tajiri chimed in with a story about one of her reading kids being concerned about whether she was personally required to buy the books. Of course, **Helene** responded that they were purchased by the Club, and she added yet another \$5 to the project.



Birthdays:

Helen Hemmes February 8
James 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, 2001 (12)
Chuck Porter February 4, 1994 (20)
Bobby Stivers-Apiki February 9, 2007 (7)
Helen Hemmes February 13, 1988 (26)
Dirk Yoshina February 14, 1992 (22)
Robert Fox February 24, 1984 (30)
Eddie Hara February 27, 1987 (27)

Wedding Anniversary:

Biff & Anna Kennedy February 4
Lorraine & Vernon Inouye February 21

Announcements:

Fri. March 7 - Club Assembly
Fri. March 14 - Rochelle Bibbentrop
Affordable Care Act - AARP
Fri. March 21 - Sally O'Brien
Reiki for Health and Life
Fri. March 28 - Dr. Donald Straney
Chancellor UH Hilo

President	Kerry Glass
President Elect	Richard Johnson
Immediate Past President	Alan Kusunoki
Vice President	Alberta Dobbe
Secretary	Susan Munro
Treasurer	Corey Kawamoto
Sergeant-at-Arms	Cindy Boots
Membership	Nancy Cabral
Public Relations	Robert Hanley
Club Administration	Tom Brown
Service Projects	Mitchell Dodo
Rotary Foundations	Alan Kusunoki
Club Service	Tim Beatty
International Service	Jenny Johnson
Community Service	Wallace Wong
Youth Service	Glenn Harris
Vocational Service	Bobby Stivers-Apiki
Hilo Rotary Club Foundation	John McVickar
Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation	Mitchell Dodo
The Rotary Foundation	Alan Kusunoki
Attendance	Judy Gibson
Greeters	Helene Tajiri
Programs	Treena Breyfogle
Lava Flow Editor	Tammy Silva

Connie Kurohara added to the effort by remarking that the kids were so into the story that they began answering the, "Should the pigeon drive the bus?" question, as it was repeated in the story, with a resounding, "NO!". And, the project got another \$5.

So soundly thrashed, **President Kerry** then humbly offered up \$20 in conscience money for the literacy project, and the discussion was closed.

Kathleen McGilvray changed the subject by contributing a welcomed \$25 for the Salvation Army repainting project.



Joe Hanley was \$10 for UHH AD Tom Moore's basketball team's recent come from behind win, and for Joe's son's finishing at the top of his OCS class and receiving his commission as a Second Lieutenant.

Chris Tamm was \$5 happy for seeing the Lion King and then discovering that former Club member **Ian Birnie** was a docent at the Pacific Aviation Museum at Pearl Harbor.

East Hawai'i Rotaract Club

Rand Mundo was \$5 happy to introduce East Hawai'i Rotaract president **Micah Ramos**. She



gave a report on their successful Operation Christmas Child project. Their current project is participating in the Relay for Life in support of cancer eradication. The two-day sponsored walking event will be at the UHH Campus Center on March 13th and 14th. The Rotaract Club has the goal of raising \$1,500 for the Relay for Life. There was an immediate outburst of Relay sponsorship contributions from a number of members for the Rotaract Club effort. More than \$400 was raised in less than three minutes.

Deep & Beyond

Treena Breyfogle introduced the day's speakers **Annamari Dietrichson** and **Stephanie Kovatch** of the **Deep & Beyond** program (<http://deepandbeyond.org>).



Deep & Beyond is a 501.c.3 devoted to providing life-changing experiences to disadvantaged members of our Island community. They are based in Kona, but also provide their services Island-wide. The Hilo-side activities are growing as funds and program interest increases.

Annamari was born and raised in an economically-depressed community in rural South Africa. As a child she found that, despite not having lots of "things", being able to experience Nature by spending time in the outdoors gave her a real sense of space, freedom, peace, and wellbeing.

Having grown up far from the water, she had to make a major adjustment when she moved to the Hawai'i Island. Still the ocean was a part of Nature,

and she wanted to embrace it. So, she took snorkeling lessons. The first time she was under water, all her fears vanished, as she discovered that the ocean was a whole, different, and wondrous world of its own.

Annamari saw an opportunity to share what she had experienced with others, in particular those who might otherwise have the opportunity. She and her associates recognized that, in addition to economic issues, physical and mental disabilities, advanced age, and other challenges also limited one's sense of freedom and belonging.

They formed **Deep & Beyond** to serve this broader range of people with programs to get them out of the house and into the outdoors, on land and sea, in safe and controlled environments. Their intention has been to transform their clients' view of the world, and of their own lives. With only four employees, and close to 300 volunteers, they are carrying out a very successful program of Snorkel Days and Adventure Camps targeting a wide range of disadvantaged people.

Relying primarily on grant support, they look forward to continuing to grow the program and expand it over time. Technically, they offer their program on a "scholarship" basis. This allows them to screen the applicants to determine their needs. About 98% of their clients receive 100% financial support for program participation.

While they would welcome financial contributions, they see many other ways that the community can help support the effort. These include acting as volunteers, spreading awareness of their programs to agencies, caregivers, and the media, and providing other forms of assistance with logistics, program venues, and so forth.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Friday March 7th. It will be held in the upstairs meeting room, and the speaker will be **Dr. Kristin McCoy**, the Director of the Hilo Residency Program.

Four Way Test

President Kerry invited **Mitch Roth** to lead the Club in the **Four-Way test**, and he also closed with number Five, "Have Fun".



Photos by **Jim Cheney**