President Alan Kusunoki welcomed us to the first meeting



of the new year with a cheerful "Aloha Kakou and Hau'oli Makahiki Hou." He then led the Club in singing "America the Beautiful" and, at Alberta Dobbe's suggestion, "Auld Lang Syne."

Tim Beatty led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Cindy

Boots invited us to make optimistic choices in the new year, quoting words from Katie Couric, journalist, "Find the joy. When you feel it, let it wash over you. And take a moment to appreciate it. Be grateful for the people in your life, for waking up feeling good and pain free, and for the stretch of road ahead that's so



full of possibilities. When you encounter bumps, keep going and don't look back."

Richard Johnson and Susan Munro greeted us warmly, with



The Weekly Review of the Rotary Aub of Hil

Richard introducing visiting Rotarians David C. Hurd from the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay and Barbara Byrd from the Rotary Club of

Huguenot Trail, Virginia. Barbara shared that she was the



secretary and a founding member of her club, which has 26 members, 24 of whom are totally active, and she expressed appreciation for the

assistance received from the Visitor Aloha Society of Hawaii (VASH). Theresa English introduced her guest Glenn Harris, and Jim Kennedy his guest, Diego Correa, the CFO of Gemini.

<u>Thanks!</u> Kudos to Cindy Boots, reporter, and Helen Hemmes, photographer, for the Dec. 21 issue of the Lava Flow. Announcements.

The Peace Forum (Jan. 25-27) is happening with our Youth Exchange Chotika Tanburana, or "Fern" to us, from Thailand. Following the Peace Forum is the Rotary Friendship Exchange (Jan. 27-30) with a total of thirty-one Rotarians and guests from Thailand, Taiwan, China, Russia, and Alaska coming for the Puna Trail Project

dedication and sightseeing. Treena Breyfogel is coordinating our Club's hosting of friends, along with key assistance from Richard and Jenny Johnson, Susan Munro, Kerry Glass, Theresa English, and Lorraine Shin. Tom Brown and the Fellowship Club are taking the lead on the steak fry being organized for Wednesday the 27th, with cash and other donations such as fuel, breakfast goodies, box lunches, snacks, and drinks respectfully being requested and encouraged. Contact Treena, please. Offering cash contributions were Richard, Jenny, Susan, Kerry, and Joe Hanley. Checks should be made payable to the Rotary Club of Hilo. (Toshi, did you hear that plea for payayas for breakfast?)

President Kusunoki gave thanks for all the volunteers for the Salvation Army Christmas Bell-Ringing, inviting Tim Beatty to explain why he was a "no show." With the 4-Way Test invoked, Tim testified that Tom Brown had signed him up without his knowledge. The repartee of Tim and Tom was fun, with Tim donating \$10 to the Club.

Does your new calendar include your scheduling of the **District Conference** at Turtle Bay, May 17-19?

The Rotary Rice Rally with a goal of collecting 400,000 pounds of rice is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 12, with our Club responsible for staffing Sack 'n Save from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contributions of \$15 or more—far more useful to the Hawaii Island Food Basket than the rice per se!—will get the donor a yellow rice paddle with a Rotary inscription—as long as supplies last.

Back to the 2013 calendar.

Applications for graduate students to be **Rotary Global Scholars** are due January 31.

Rotarians are invited to nominate their keiki or grandkeiki for one opening with an Interact student for a trip to Japan, fully paid thanks to the Wada Foundation, in March 2013. Contact Gail Takaki ASAP for this wonderful opportunity! (There are criteria, and the parent/grandparent of the student is expected to be a host for a visiting student from Japan this fall.)

Plan now to attend the Club's **strategic planning session** on Saturday, Feb. 9, tentatively 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., with venue to be announced and with lunch, survey results, and centennial planning on the docket for a productive half-day.

<u>Recognitions.</u> Recognized were Ed Hara, a Christmas Eve baby (12/24), Vivian Birchall (12/27) and Gay Porter, an "incubator" baby who arrived early (12/31). Recognized for wedding anniversaries were Ron and Glynnis Dolan (with Ron giving \$39 to the Club), Wally and Malia Wong (12/23), and Ian Birnie (1/04) who celebrated many happy years with his late wife, Carleen. Yoko Hayano gave \$20 in honor of her Club anniversary on Jan. 7, with Steve Yoshida as her sponsor.

Happy \$\$

Toshi Aoki the "papaya king" was happy for the nice article

Birthdays.

Bobby Stivers- Apiki January 17 Gail Takaki January 17 Newton Chu January 19 Mitch Dodo January 19

Club Anniversary:

Yoko Hayano January 7 Scott Brand January 14 Bob Hanley January 14 Stew Hussey January 15 Nancy Cabral January 29 Jenny Johnson January 30 Richard Johnson January 30

<u>Announcements</u>

Fri. January 18 Quack Moore Palace Theater update

Fri. January 25
Brenda Ho
Hospice of Hilo update

Fri. February 1 Club Assembly and photo thirteen years ago but even happier with the recent Hawaii Tribune-Herald article and photo, as this time he was told that he looked "young" in the photo!

Stew Hussey's photo was also in the paper, thanks to an article about the S. Hata Building's centennial celebration. Stew gave \$50 to the Wada Foundation for that recognition, with Nancy Cabral giving \$100 to the Hilo Rotary Club Foundation for being named in the article and for letting potential tenants know who to contact!

Joe Hanley was pleased to announce that his son Joe got engaged on Dec. 31 and that his daughter graduated from college--\$10 for the Club's coffers. (Just what was that advice from President Alan? Just say "yes"?)

Mike Robinson was \$5 happy (all he could afford) after spending 18 fun days with his family in Florida, including a visit to the Florida Keys.

Gail Takaki gave \$5 for Nancy Cabral's excellent sales pitches, one of which resulted in a \$500 donation for RYLA.

Treena Breyfogel gave \$20, thankful that her four friends returned from Midway safe and sound.

Tom Olcott gave \$ to encourage Rotarians to send cards to Jimmy Yagi, back from a training session, but now down with pneumonia.

Capt. Cel Ruwethin donated \$20 to give thanks for superb volunteering by members of the Interact Club for the Thanksgiving dinner, for Nancy Cabral who donated space for their Angel Tree program (to sort gifts, etc.), and to Rotarians for their staffing the kettles and ringing bells, raising \$445.73. Alberta Dobbe pitched in with \$25 to the Salvation Army for the kettle, with Nancy Cabral donating the balance to make the amount from the December collection an even \$500.

Time running short, President Alan invited Past President Chuck Porter to speak but to "keep it short." You had to be there for the full effect of Chuck's prompt and witty quip! "Talk about short!" Chuck gave \$10 to announce that he had a flat tire on Saddle Road—in the rain, no less—and how grateful he was for another truck's stopping by (Willocks Construction) with three men changing the tire in minutes.

Cindy Boots shared a donation of \$50 to the Hawaii Island Food Basket, thankful that the Packers are in the playoffs and that she'll be seeing "Chicago" in concert.

New Member Induction. President Alan had the honor of inducting Glenn Harris as a member, sponsored by Theresa English. Glenn, formerly a member of the Rotary Club in Quincy, California, has been visiting since October. (He's also been a terrific volunteer!) Glenn shared that he and his wife had relocated at the end of August and that they feel blessed and have a lot of gratitude for the welcome they have received. (Earlier Theresa contributed \$5 for the "event" of the day!)

In Closing.

Our newest member, Glenn Harris, led the Club in the "4-Way Test of the things we think, say, or do," and the meeting was adjourned.





Photos by Kerry Glass

