



Rotary News **Lava FLOW**

July 11, 2014

94 Years of Service

Reporter: the "Don"

The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo

It was an absolutely beautiful hot and muggy day in Hawaii. As they have done for 95 years as Club number 795, the oldest club on the Big Island, the Rotary Club of Hilo Rotarians gathered together for fellowship and "Service above Self" in the bustling port city of Hilo.



Greeted with a smile, warm handshake and hug by Sally "Reiki" O'Brien, the Rotary Club of Hilo Rotarians happily accepted their badges and prepared to enjoy the feast prepared by the chefs of the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel.

Newly crowned 96th President Richard "not Jenny" Johnson was ready for his first meeting as President and with a huge smile on his face rang the bell at 12:01 and declared it World (over)Population Day. He then called upon Club Rotary Foundation Chair Alan "Not Kazunoko" Kusunoki to lead us



in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ageless Past President Russ "not Body" Oda was called upon to give us the inspirational moment, and of course he did but not before a giving us a Russ Oda moment.

As always Da Prez thanked June 20th Lava Flow reporter Bobby "not YWCA" Stivers-Apiki and photographer Bob "not Joe" Hanley, as well as mysterious Jim "Double H" Cheney and photographer Stew "not Fussy" Hussy for their coverage of the Inauguration Dinner. Not to be forgotten were Lava Flow Coordinator Tammy "not Sterling" Silva and Publisher Ed "not Judge" Hara.

President Richard "not Jenny" Johnson showed off the headlines about his inauguration and distinguished himself from Past President Kerry "Not Munro" Glass by pointing out that he had a full head of grey hair. Yeah, big deal Prez, look at Russ Oda, he is twice your age and has no grey hair! Prez Johnson then called up Greeter

Sally "Reiki" O'Brien to introduce our guests. She announced that visiting us from the Rotary Club of South Hilo were Phoebe "not James" Lambeth and new South Hilo President Doug "not John" Adams. Also visiting was Hilo Bay Rotarian Mary "not to be forgotten" Begier. Cindy "not Puss 'n' Boots" introduced her guest and our speaker, Douglas Bath.

Da New Prez then reminded us of upcoming events, such as this Sunday's Hilo Triathlon Aid Station at the Pepeekeo "Gear." Also on August 9 the big District Governor is coming to visit the Club. There will not be a meeting on August 16th because it is Hawaii Admissions Day. If you knew that, please take the day off. On September 1 there is a Lobsterfest Fund Raiser at Volcano Cooper Center put on by the Rotary Club of

Volcano. On October 3 the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay is putting on their annual Octoberfest at Sangha Hall. The next Club Board meeting will be on October 13 at Hilo Rice Noodle Restaurant. Don't blame the Prez for not giving you enough advance notice.

Wow, far out Prez, that's how you Light Up Rotary! Thanks for the reminders Prez!

Prez then recognized Biff "not Jim" Kennedy on his birthday. Ancient Past President Russ "not Body" Oda was happy about the 85 candles on his cake. Missing birthday celebrators included Lorraine Inouye, Glenn Harris, Ron Dolan and Lisa Rantz. Cindy "not Puss 'n' Boots" celebrated 29 years of marital bliss with husband John. Bob "Badge #1" and Alice Fujimoto celebrated 63 years of being together. Theresa "not Pidgin" English celebrated 42 years with Hubby Bob. Mike "not Neymar" Robinson was happy for his 35 years with wife Phyllis, and of course Ed "not Judge" Hara celebrated 36 years of happiness with his wife Portia. The list of divorced members was too long to report.



Past President Alberta Dobbe "not Gillis" was happy for her second stint in Rotary now reaching 6 years. You bet the Hilo Rotarians were happy. Mike "not Neymar" Robinson was thrilled that the World Cup game was in the morning Sunday so he could still go out and play with his buddies in the afternoon. His wife Phyllis was less than thrilled. Nancy "not late" Cabral was happy about seeing a new president. Likewise former first lady Susan "not Glass" Munro was happy to be back to normal after this past year. Kristina "not Matt" Dillon was happy that her pet rabbit had bunnies and not chicks. Tim "not Warren" Beatty was happy that people could sign up as Greeters. Immediate

Past President Kerry "not Munro" Glass was happy he could now mow his lawn on Friday mornings rather than prepare for the noon meeting. He was lying, he missed being up there and cried when he gave his happy dollars.

President Johnson was happy to pay Newton "not kidding" Chu's fine for missing the inaugural dinner because he is such a nice guy. Newton "not kidding" Chu was happy for having Chuck "I'm not Gay" Porter stand in for him as emcee for the Inauguration Dinner. He gave happy dollars to the Rotary Foundation to kick off Alan "not Kusunoko" Kusunoki's Every Rotarian Every Year campaign. Alberta Dobbe "not Gillis" was happy and missed her husband who was a great man. Indeed.



Birthdays:

Lisa Rantz July 3
Jim Kennedy July 17
Gene Tao July 20
Cowboy Kaneshiro July 24
Mitch Roth July 28
Treena Breyfogle July 30
Susan Munro July 30

Club Anniversary:

Alberta Dobbe July 11, 2008 (6)
Connie Kurohara July 12, 2013 (1)
Jean Sugiyama July 12, 2013 (1)
Lorraine Shin July 17, 2009 (5)
Mitch Roth July 19, 2013 (1)
Christina Dhillon July 23, 2010 (4)
Misti Tyrin July 23, 2010 (4)
Jim Kennedy July 23, 2008 (16)
Lisa Rantz July 26, 2013 (1)
Sally O'Brien July 27, 2010 (2)

Wedding Anniversary:

Eddie & Portia Hara July 1 (36)
Stew & Alessandra Hussey July 12 (28)
Randy & Lydia Hart July 17 (21)
Tom & Delia Brown July 29 (33)

Announcements:

Fri. July 18 - Tom Nelson
PKF Document Shredding
Fri. July 25 - Jennifer Ah Chong
Family Programs Hawaii
Fri. August 1 - Club Assembly
Fri. August 8 - Laura Steelquist
District 5000 Governor

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
Service Projects Mitchell Dodo
Rotary Foundations Alan Kusunoki
Club Service Tom Brown
International Service Jenny Johnson
Community Service Misti Tyrin
Youth Service Glenn Harris
Vocational Service Biff Kennedy
Foundations Alan Kusunoki

Cindy "not Puss 'n" Boots then introduced



our speaker, **Mr. Douglas Bath**, the co-owner of ProVision Solar, one of the oldest and leading Solar energy design and installation firms on the Big Island. **Doug** gave a very detailed explanation about the state of the solar energy industry and how it fits into Hawaii's grids and economy.

We learned about how important it was to look at alternative forms of energy since the world's appetite for petroleum is sky rocketing and the population is growing so we need to do something now and not later. **Russ Oda**, did you know that a Kilowatt Hour provides enough energy to lift 26 pounds 26,000 feet into the air? And you thought smoking marijuana got you high. Light up Rotary!

Oh yes, where was I.... On the mainland the cost of a KWH is about .10 to .15 cents while we pay about .40 cents. WOW. So solar energy is important because the price of such technology is dropping, and the federal and state tax credits make it a very good reason to see companies like his to see how installing such a system may make sense to you.

Of course he warned us that there may be inferior products being sold out there because China has been exporting inexpensive panels to the US, however those panels may not last as long or be as efficient as the ones that he uses that are made in Japan or the US. **Mr. Bath** explained some of the issues of plugging your system into the grid, and why you need to check out whether Hawaii Electric (the entity formerly known as HELCO) needs to check and see whether the Grid can handle any new system. Because his Kilowatt speaking hour was not yet up, **Mr. Bath** answered a bunch of questions. The answers were quite interesting, but you had to be there.

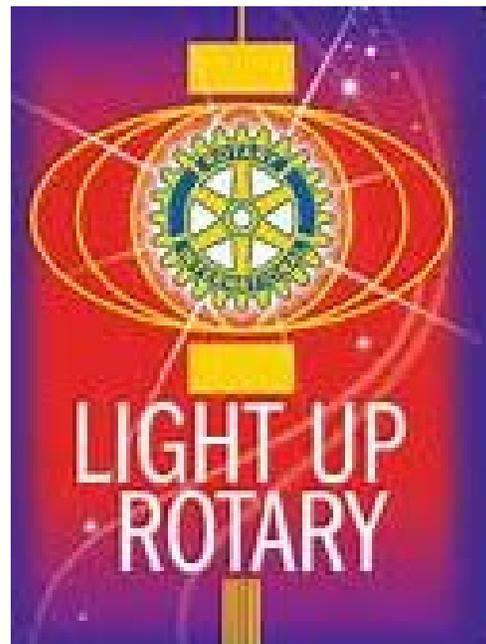
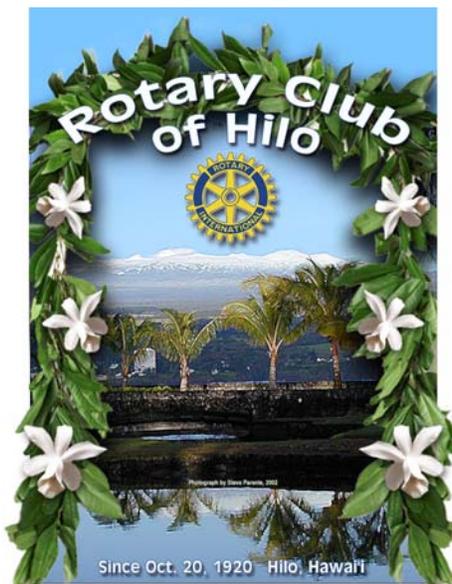


President Richard "not Jenny" Johnson then gave **Mr. Bath** the hook and awarded him a fancy mug and thanked him for his time.

He then called on **Mike "not Neymar" Robinson** to lead us in the **4 Way Test** of the Things we Think, Say and Do.

And with that, **da Prez** banged the gong, and we were outta there in no time and that's a fact Jack.

See you next week!



Photos by **Mitchell Dodo**