



Rotary News **Lava FLOW**

June 15, 2012

92 YEARS OF SERVICE

Reporter: Double H

The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo

At exactly 12:03pm today, on the Ides of June (which happens to be the 3rd Friday of the month AND the 3rd last official meeting of his reign, along with being only 6 months away from Christmas – you heard it here first so you can start planning your shopping accordingly), **Pres. Handley** gonged the meeting to order with the usual “We are the oldest Rotary Club on the Big Island, 2nd oldest in Hawaii (92 years), having been chartered on December 1st, 1920” and, as has been his style this year, asked for a volunteer to lead us in the pledge to our flag. **Tom Alcott** quickly stepped up and did the deed for us.



Our inspirational moment was provided by **Misti Tiring** reading a spiritual message she received at the age of 12 from her grandmother. You had to be there.

GREETERS



Today's pleasant and gracious greeters were **Jim Kennedy** and, in lieu of (and see, this writer actually spelled “lieu” correctly) **Teresa Anguish** (who came really late and missed performing her duties here) **Judy Gipson**. They welcomed everyone with a smile and a sincere openness.

VISITORS AND GUESTS

Pres. Handley then requested one of the greeters, **Jim**, to introduce our visitors and guests

From the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay was: **Carol Van Camp**.

Susan Monrow's guest was **Charlene Prickett**. **Steve Yoshima's** guest was his wife **Noko**, who will be returning to Alaska shortly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Pres. Handley also welcomed the presence of long lost **Ilan Burnie**, who we haven't seen in a while. Good to see you again **Ilan**, so don't be a stranger.

In a moment of quiet reflection, in the realization that his term is almost over, **Pres. Handley** commented that he really enjoyed being our president this year even though it was stressful and provided challenges he normally didn't encounter in his regular professional duties. He was grateful for everyone's help in making his job easier and doing the things to make the Club operate efficiently and smoothly. For this he contributed

\$1,000.00 to the **Hilo Rotary Foundation**. **WOW!!!**

This was a segway to thanking **Russ Ota** for covering for him last week in his absence (at which point our missing greeter **Teresa Anguish** quietly snuck in and sat herself primly at one of the front tables without any comment).

Thanks went to **Saeko Haiyachi** and **Newton (the Don) Chew** for last's week's marvelous photos and Lava Flow. Nice job guys.

Stew Hussie was then called up to say a few words (almost impossible for **Stew** you know) about one of the many worthwhile projects our Club commits to during the year. This one involved our new Sister Club in Taiwan for their international project (who helped us greatly in our Kau School computer project) and which we needed to complete funding to enable our already committed **District 5000** matching grant funds to be released. **Stew**



said he was proud to be in an organization like our Rotary Club and immediately donated a check for **\$200.00** to help our Club fulfill its commitment to this project. Our Club needed a total of **\$2,000.00** for this and with his and **Pres. Handley's** contribution we were almost there and he asked others at today's meeting to contribute to make this project go. Immediately and generously others opened their wallets and pocketbooks and the **\$2,000.00** total was reached. Thanks and mahalos for their generosity go out to: **Terry Glass** and **Susan Monrow**, **Newton (the Don) Chew**, **Jennie Johnston**, **Alan Kobayashi**, **Kui Costas**, **Bob Handley**, **Lorraine Chinn**, and **Teresa Anguish**.

This is in addition to our current, but not yet completed, **Fiji Project** in which some funding was provided by outside sources.

Do we have a good Club or what?

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Dirk Yoshima celebrated his birthday yesterday, the 14th and already couldn't remember what he did to commemorate it. For his lapse of memory, he gave **\$25.00**. **Shauna Touchy's** birthday is today but she was not present to say or defend herself about it.

A Club Anniversary was noted TODAY for **Randy Harte** who mentioned that this 17 year anniversary doesn't count his first term with the Club (a few years before he was transferred out of the State for his military duties) and some time he spent in the Wahiawa Rotary Club. **Gay Potter (nee Rapozo)** remembers his 1st term with the Club because both she and he were still single at the time (don't read anything into that, please) and it was more than 17 years ago.

Yoko Haiyano and husband celebrated their 18th Wedding anniversary on the 12th and **Steve Yoshima** contributed **\$20.00** in her name. Way to go **Steve**.

Cel Ruwetine and wife were at Disney World celebrating their anniversary yesterday.

Birthdays:

Ian Hatch June 3
Chuck Porter June 4
Judy Gibson June 6
Dirk Yoshina June 14
Shauna Tuohy June 15
Lorraine Inouye June 22
Ron Dolan June 30
Russ Oda June 30

Club Anniversary:

Mitchell Dodo June 4
Randy Hart June 15
Saeko Hayashi June 30

Wedding Anniversary:

Stan & Nancy Fortuna June 2
Jimmy & Jeanne Yagi June 7
Yoko & Yutaka Hayano June 12
Cel & Shoshanna Ruwethin June 14
Ted & Sylvia Dixon June 16
Cindy & John Boots June 21
Bob & Alice Fujimoto June 23
Theresa & Bob English June 25
Mike & Phyllis Robinson June 30

Announcements:

Fri. June 22
Jeff Melrose - Hawaii Island Food
Self-Sufficiency Study
Thurs. June 28
Installation 2012 - 2013
Hilo Yacht Club
Fri. June 29
NO Meeting

President	Joseph Hanley
President Elect	Alan Kusunoki
Vice President	Alberta Dobbe
Immediate Past President	Stewart Hussey
Secretary	Richard Johnson
Treasurer	William Dolan
Sergeant-at-Arms	Chris Tamm
Director - Club Administration	Kerry Glass
Director - Service Projects	Mitchell Dodo
Director - Rotary Foundations	Susan Munro
Director - Membership	James Cheney
Director - Public relations	Robert Hanley
International Service	Steve Yoshida
Community Service	Wallace Wong
Vocational Service	John McVickar
New Generations	Rand Mundo
Club Service	Thomas Brown
The Rotary Foundation	Susan Munro
Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation	Mitchell Dodo

HAPPY DOLLARS

Chuck Potter contributed a few \$ cause "Dallas" is back on TV (what a great show, according to **Chuckie**), that **Helene Tageerie** sold his mom's condo like really quickly, and for buying a Roadie Ford Hog from our illustrious Club Pres., which happened to have good Lex Brodie tires on it in stopping in time to prevent a pedestrian accident. **Pres. Handley** thought otherwise, saying it must have been the good quality Ford brakes saving the day in this incident and contributed another \$20.00 for the plug. **Chuck** also gave \$100.00 to the **Rotary Foundation** for saying he needs to move to Kona for at least 6 months to open a new store over there in the old GM facility. He is sorry about needing a leave-of-absence and will miss us.

Ian popped up and said it felt like he never left, with the Club's good bantering humor and generosity. And to make his point he gave \$20.00 to read a **Russism** to **Russ** (who couldn't hear it and had to be told what was said)

Nancy Cabrell gave \$10.00 in retort to **Chuck's** comment about tight pants being a distraction for his possible pedestrian accident.

GUEST SPEAKER

Susan was called up to introduce **Mitch Roth**, the Introducer for our guest speaker, **Iopa (Kapoli) Maunakea** representing the **Men of Pa'a**.

Mitch provided a lot of groundwork describing the kind of activities the **Men of Pa'a** do, who they are and how they benefit both themselves and the community. He talked about the Weed & Seed project in Pahoia and what the **Men** did there because of the things they saw going on. **Mitch** considers the **Men** organization to be part of a healing process for the community because many of the members were prisoners from Kulani and they are helping cleaning up each other and the community, especially in the Kau area.

Kapoli was then officially welcomed to speak and he did so from the heart. He is not a public speaker and noted that he was very nervous doing this. We all tried to make it easy and comfortable for him and he proceeded to get his points across.

Kapoli is a recovering alcoholic, a recovering drug addict and an ex-con, so you know the problems someone like him has in getting a fair shake after all this. He has been involved in the **Men of Pa'a** helping in community based events for over 5 years now with not doing any new crimes in that time.

His grandmother lived and worked in Nanakuli on Oahu years and years ago and work there with the

community in trying to make families and the community get better. (This reporter found a great historical article on the internet about **Kapoli's** grandmother and her work over there and laying the groundwork for such an organization like the **Men of Pa'a**. See: <http://keolamagazine.com/the-life-in-music/bruddah-kuz%E2%80%99-family-album/>).

The **Men of Pa'a** grows thru mentorship, a person has to be clean and sober for at least 60 consecutive days. That doesn't sound like a long time but for someone who is (or was) and addict or an alcoholic, this can be an eternity. The age range is usually from 22-30 and many have just gotten out of jail with their membership count usually between 15-30 people.

All the work they do is voluntary, usually involving cleaning, cooking and security and other odd jobs for community functions. No money is taken in running the organization though contributions are accepted, mostly in the form of food (which is greatly appreciated).

Membership usually consists of ex-dopers and addicts who often committed thefts and other crimes to support their habits before. It's an open membership to those committed to being clean and who want to change. There are some ladies on the roster. Part of the goal of the organization is to teach the men to be better family members and fathers.

They have a page on Facebook and can be contacted through that. They often do other talks before other group and sometimes in the high schools (usually Waiakea and Hilo Highs) to instruct the kids and the community about who they are and what not to do in having to have to join an organization like theirs.

Kapoli appreciated the interest from us in his organization and, more emphatically, the lunch that was provided to him by us for his talk here. He thought the food was great.



And with that, **Pres. Handley** presented **Kapoli** a Koa Pen, made by our own **Gerard Carder** and a note of thanks.

In closing, the **4-Way Test** was led by volunteer **Mike Robertson**. And with that, the meeting was gonged to a close.

See you all next week.
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Photos by **Saeko Hayashi**

EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

