



Rotary News

lava FLOW

June 26, 2014

94 Years of Service

Reporter: Double H

The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo



On an absolutely beautiful evening which was not too hot, a bunch of people showed up at the large pavilion at the park, smoozed for a while, enjoyed drinks and dinner and watched **Richard Johnson** be inducted at 2014-2015 President of the Rotary Club of Hilo. All went home happy and content when the event was completed

THE END

Oh? You want more? Ok, here you go for all you traditionalists who like details of what actually took place.

Yes, there was an exciting event occurring at the large pavilion at Wailoa State Park this gorgeous evening. Rotarians and their guests arrived in garb ranging from tee-shirts & jean (you **Theresa English**) and shorts to finery with heels (you **Naomi Menor**) and everything in-between.



Greeting everyone with a smile were **Judy Gibson** and **Kui Costa**, signing everyone in, collecting money and distributing the new Rotary Pins (Light Up Rotary). Nice job guys.



With the official start up time set at 5:30pm there was plenty of time before the official proceedings began for all to enjoy a glass of their favorite beverage, smooze with each other, get their photos taken by **Stew Hussey**, and snack at the goody table. Actual "glass" wine glasses were made available for the wine drinkers (not styrofoam or paper cups, which make any kind of wine taste sort of ugly) and Heineken beer (along with the standard bud light if that was your thing) for the beer drinkers. Water and soda pop was also available.

Four front row tables were bedecked in nice dark blue tablecloths with motive candles arranged appropriately on each one. At the center table (presumably in the dignitary's spot) was the bottle of Single-Malt scotch **Pres. Kerry** promised to bring at the meeting last Friday. Not sure who beside him and Incoming **President Richard Johnson** got to sample it but it was there for some reason.

Among the beautiful people who attended were **Russ Oda** and wife **Aki**, who garnered a lot of attention because it was great seeing her out and around and doing well. Thanks for bringing her, **Russ**.



So, after about 45 minutes of drinking, talking and just getting hungry, substitute emcee **Robert Charles Porter** (**Newton Chu**) was called away at the last moment and not able to come so **Chuck** was Shanghai'd into doing this – and did a fine job considering he didn't have a lot of time to prepare) called the meeting to order. Somehow he set up a monolog of jokes and sort of a roast on **Kerry** and **Richard**, telling various tales (?) about them and what they meant to him. It was quite hilarious (and you had to be there cause the jokes came to fast, there was no way to record them properly).



Incoming Pres. Johnson (we are going to have to come up with some sort of nickname or something for **Richard** because this title and name will cause those of us old enough to remember **Lyndon Johnson** to have good or bad memories – depending on your point of view) was honored to lead us in the Pledge to the Flag to officially open the meeting.

Next **Pres. Kerry** was given 5 (count-em – FIVE) whole minutes to give his outgoing President's message which basically consisted of a real quick summary again of the past years activities and accomplishments, thanking his officers and directors and his wife **Susan** (who put up with all the shenanigans all year and provided super backup and support for him) and saying his year is done and NO MORE – once is enough as much fun as it was.

After this **Chuck** did a Porterized version of the history of the Rotary Club of Hilo from 1920 on (for all the visitors and guests who might not know much about us) and then had all those visitors and guests introduced, going from table to table.

Now **Past President Mitch Dodo** was called upon for the invocation, which he did in a nice short and sweet manner. Thanks heavens for that cause now dinner is served (sort of anyway since it was a buffet and you had to get it yourself standing in line).



And what a dinner – Seafood Gumbo, Dirty Rice, Chicken Jambalaya, Salads and New Orleans cakes (this writer has no clue how they are spelled so I'm not even going to try). And plenty of it so if you needed 2nd's, they were available. Different for sure for us and very tasty. **Incoming Pres. Richard** thanked the caterers for their fine job and their presentation (actual silverware and glass plates).



Chef Dean Shigeoka

Birthdays:

- Jeanine Atebara June 1
- Jean Sugiyama June 2
- Ian Hatch June 3
- Chuck Porter June 4
- Judy Gibson June 6
- Kathleen McGilvary June 7
- Dirk Yoshina June 14
- Biff Kennedy June 21
- Lorraine Inouye June 22
- Glenn Harris June 26
- Ron Dolan June 30
- Russ Oda June 30

Club Anniversary:

Mitch Dodo June 4, 1999 (15)

Wedding Anniversary:

- James & Jeanne Yagi June 7 (34)
- Yoko & Yutaka Hayano June 12 (20)
- Cel & Shoshanna Ruwethin June 14 (9)
- Ted & Sylvia Dixon June 16 (24)
- Cindy & John Boots June 21 (29)
- Bob & Alice Fujimoto June 23 (63)
- Theresa & Bob English June 25 (42)
- Marcia & Bill Sakai June 28 (45)
- Miike & Phyllis Robinson June 30 (35)

Announcements:

- Thurs. June 26 - Club Installation (Meeting)
- Fri. June 27 - No Meeting
- Fri. July 4 - No Meeting

- 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

When everyone sat and bloated after dining on that creative Cajun meal, emcee **Chuck** then proceeded to talk about Rotary here versus on the mainland and the diversity of our Club. We should be proud of having males and females of all colors and nationalities as members. A quick biography of Incoming **Pres. Richard** followed (with the info obviously provided by **Richard** – after all, how would **Chuck** know all this stuff?). One of the highlights that few of us knew about **Richard** was that he was a Commander in the Navy. Maybe that's why he's so organized and straight-laced.

Our other Rotarian named **Porter, Past Pres. Gay**, was then called upon to induct Incoming **Pres.**



Richard and his staff (all the officers and board members whose names you can see on the side banner of this newsletter – this writer is too lazy to list them again here). Two were absent (**Misty Tyrin** and **Biff Kennedy**) so they will have to be sworn in later. It seems like the functioning staff now of Rotary has grown by leaps and bounds since a large percentage of those members attending were actually up front (quite a change from the small staffs from years ago) – quite a large group.

Pres. Richard began his initial message to us, showing us the new Rotary Flag for the year with the “**Light Up Rotary**” theme. He commended now **Past Pres. Kerry** on his accomplishments during his term and will strive to do as well or better in his



term of office. The traditional Past President Plaque and Gavel along with a cherished Past President's Badge was given to **Kerry**. After which **Pres. Richard** said one of his goals for the year is to do more family type activities, which seem to bring everyone closer in Rotary relationships.

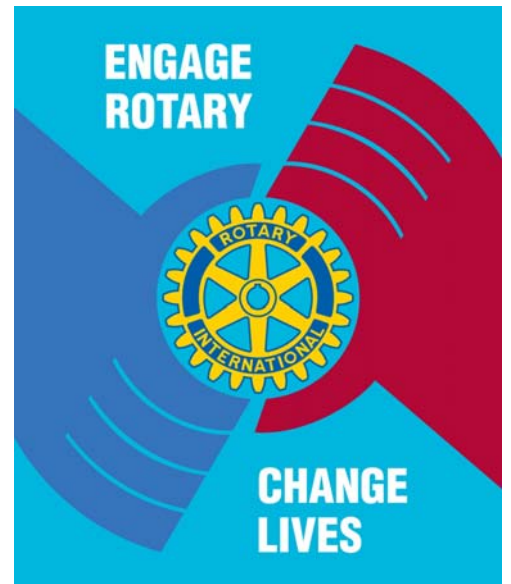


And, in keeping with tradition, **Past President Russ Oda** was recognized as the 1st fine-ee, which in this case came with a price as **Russ**, in his normal punny manner, told a long story/joke. For this privilege, he donated \$100 to the **Wada Foundation**.



With the termites wanting to take over control of the area and becoming a real nuisance **Past Pres. Kerry** was called to lead us in the **4-Way Test**. After which this induction meeting was closed and everyone wished a safe drive home.

What a year this is going to be!



Photos by **Stew Hussey**

