



The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo

It was an awesome clear sunny day in Hilo. As we have done for over 90 years, Hilo Rotarians gathered together for Rotary fellowship in the bustling port city of Hilo. Greeted with a smile and a warm handshake and hug by **Bob "Adman" Hanley** and **Sandra "Orchid" Song**, the Rotary Club of Hilo members happily accepted their badges and prepared to enjoy the meeting of President **Joe "Ford" Hanley**.



But wait, that wasn't **President Ford** up there. Flashback to 1972, it was

none other than Past-President **Russ "Boddie" Oda** who welcomed us and reminded us that we are the oldest club on the Big Island and the second oldest club in Hawaii. We were founded on

December 1, 1920, nine years before President **Boddie** was born. He called on a super volunteer Rotarian **John "McGyver" McVickar** to lead us in the pledge of allegiance. **President Body** then brought up **Steve "Homer" Yoshida** to give an inspirational moment. We were inspired.

President Boddie parted with tradition and started off with a standup routine worthy of someone being nearly 90 years old. A long thoughtful story about a motorcyclist wanting a bridge from California to Hawaii led to a series of groans when it was tied into his age long mystery of understanding women. **President Boddie** led us in a short stroll down memory lane and he passed out a picture of young **President Boddie** with a full head of black hair. Wait, he still has a full head of black hair. The miracle of Grecian Formula.

President Boddie part



Greeter **Bob "adman" Hanley** then introduced our guests. Visting our club from the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay, **Pete "Former DG" Mueller**. **Susan "Marilyn" Munro** brought **Charlene Prickett**, and **Lorraine "BJ" Shin** brought **Daniel Caluya** and **Larry Lau**.

President Boddie then recognized our club birthday babies, **Ian "Fleming" Hatch**, **Chuck "Tex" Porter** and **Judy "Sheriff" Gibson**. But since they were not in attendance, there was no singing, no cake, no ice cream, no nothing. **Mitchell "Morty" Dodo** celebrated a club anniversary, but he was out, somebody must have died. **Stan "Headmeister" Fortuna (Nancy)** and **Jimmy "Coach" Yagi (Jeannie)** both celebrated wedding anniversaries, and they were both out. Somebody must have gotten married.

President Boddie then brought up a new tradition, one he witnessed when he first visited our sister club of Hiroshima South some 42 years ago. Instead of **Happy Dollars**, they call it **"NIKO NIKO BAKO"** or **Smile Box**. So he called on all Hilo Rotarians who were born in Japan to share some smiles with us. He shared some nice pictures of blooming trees sent to **President Ford** by a member of our sister club, **Mr. Hiroshi Sakaedani**. He started with **Tom "dabus" Brown**. **Dabus** was not present, maybe he missed his bus. **Yoko "OhNo" Hayano** shared some happy thoughts. **Saeko "Space Cadet" Hayashi** also shared some smiles. **Gay "DaNight" Porter** shared some secrets and memories from her trip to Hiroshima. **Naomi "Sake" Menor** gave us hundreds of Yen.

Alberta "Gillis" Dobbe gave some happy dollars. **Richard "Midway" Johnson** gave some big happy dollars for his awesome experience at the Rotary International Convention in Thailand. **Steve "Homer" Yoshida** then announced he was going back to Alaska to pack up his things for his move to Hilo. He gave a quick plug for the Peace Forum and asked for volunteers to help him organize trips for attendees to visit Hilo after the conference.

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 15
Iopa Maunakea - Men of Pa'a
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

PresidentJoseph Hanley
President ElectAlan Kusunoki
Vice PresidentAlberta Dobbe
Immediate Past PresidentStewart Hussey
SecretaryRichard Johnson
TreasurerWilliam Dolan
Sergeant-at-ArmsChris Tamm
Director - Club Administration.....Kerry Glass
Director - Service Projects.....Mitchell Dodo
Director - Rotary FoundationsSusan Munro
Director - MembershipJames Cheney
Director - Public relationsRobert Hanley
International Service.....Steve Yoshida
Community ServiceWallace Wong
Vocational ServiceJohn McVickar
New Generations.....Rand Mundo
Club ServiceThomas Brown
The Rotary Foundation.....Susan Munro
Hawaii Rotary Youth FoundationMitchell Dodo

Steve "Subway" Handy gave a whopping footlong **\$1,000** to the **Hilo Rotary Club** Foundation to go toward finishing his awesome project for the school in Fiji. Way to go **Subway!** Eat Fresh! **John "McGyver" McVickar** chimed in with a quick **\$500** to help **Subway**. Wow, thanks **John**, that's half a footlong!

Susan "Marilyn" Munro then introduced our guest speaker, **Keith Neils**, better known as **Bruddah Skibs**, of Basic Image, a Hawaii non-profit engaged in restoring our beach parks and imparting wisdom and guidance to our keiki. In 2003, a group of concerned Big Island surfers banded together to organize a community clean-up of their terribly overgrown favorite surf spot, their beloved Honoli'i Beach Park. Determined to restore Honoli'i to its former splendor and a park where residents and visitors could visit and enjoy; where local students could be involved in maintaining the park and coastal shoreline; and where families could gather.



Now 9+ years later, the surf spots adopted and transformed by Basic Image are glowing testimony to malama'aina. Basic Image is widely recognized as a not-for-profit leader in land stewardship, conservation, community service and leadership. Having mobilized hundreds of volunteers and leveraged limited donations into massive conservation benefits, Basic Image is revered for its enormous positive impact on the environmental and aesthetic quality of Hawai'i. Through its work, Basic Image has saved the County of Hawai'i millions of dollars in maintenance costs. Basic Image works with communities to teach sustainable environmental stewardship and promote cultural conservation. Basic Image aims to respect, enhance and perpetuate Hawai'i's natural resources as well as mentor youth by example.

At present, Basic Image has oversight of four adopted parks through the County of Hawaii's Friends of the Parks program. Our adopted park project sites are located in three of Hawaii County Council Districts. Although located in these different geographic regions, Honoli'i, Poho'iki, Wai'Uli and Hakalau Bay draw park visitors from the entire island. These restoration projects have impacted the Big Island of Hawaii by providing residents and visitors another place to enjoy their natural environment.

Basic Image is committed to fostering a strong sense of kuleana (responsibility). They work hard to ensure that local communities have a sense of ownership and vested interest in the future of the park by sharing the concerns and rewards of conservation. Our communities enjoy lending a hand and in some cases some have pursued hobbies such as gardening. Residents who frequent our transformed parks, and witness the community benefits from our presence, are more likely to defend the protected area. With Basic Image's restoration project, more open spaces were created with a more unified presence. We provide strong leadership, personal mentorship opportunities including family activities.

Impressive leadership **Bruddah Skibs!** Find out more about his work at www.pakalove.org **President Boddie** then presented **Bruddah Skibs** with the world's finest Koa Pen created by Rotarian **Gerard "Notjimmy" Carter**.



President Boddie then called on **Newton "the Don" Chu** to lead us in the **Four Way Test**. And with that, one final bang of the gong and the meeting came to a close. And that's a fact Jack!

Photos by **SAEKO HAYASHI**

EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

