



Rotary News *Lava* FLOW

March 23, 2012

92 YEARS OF SERVICE

Reporter: HRH

The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo

Welcome. **President Joe Hanley** welcomed members to the meeting, with visiting **Rotary PDG Pete Muller** volunteering to lead us in the pledge of allegiance.

Bobby Stivers-Apiki shared quotations from the chapter "Food For Thought" in Jessica Rich's book, *The Gift of Hawai'i Island Inspirations*. What fun! They included "Like rice in a bento, the best friends are the kind that stick together." He ended with the quotation, "When visiting with island people, it's always best to leave your ego at the door along with your slippers."



Steve Handy of the "Jerry [Watanabe] and Steve show" introduced visiting Rotarians and guests.

Visiting from the Rotary Club of Boulder City Sunrise Club in Nevada was **Lee McDonald**. His club has fifty-seven members that



work four to five months annually on their one fundraiser, a "Wurst Fest" that raises around \$85,000. Funds help support an exceptional party for high school graduates. **President Joe** and he exchanged club banners, with **President Joe** quipping that "it's not the 'wurst' event I've ever heard of." (Got that?)

Cindy Boots introduced her guests **Debra Lex** and **Barney Sheffield**, **Saeko Hayashi** her son **Takeru**, and **Helene Tajiri**, her guest **Tammy Silva**. Also present was **Noko Yoshida**, guest of husband **Steve Yoshida**.

Announcements.

President-elect Alan Kusunoki invited Rotarians to attend the March 24th **District Assembly** at Kamemameha Schools, starting with breakfast at 7:45 a.m. and ending soon after lunch. Topics include basics for new members and officers plus updates on the "Future Vision" for **Rotary International's Foundation**.



The East Hawaii Rotary Club picnic is scheduled for Sunday, April 1, with a volunteer opportunity for all on Saturday, April 28, via the five Club community service project at Children's Justice Center.

Susan Munro reported on the Keiki Vision testing at two schools this past week. Thanks to all who volunteered!



Co-chairs **Cindy Boots** and **Saeko Hayashi** along with **Barney Sheffield**, the local director of the **American Red Cross** office, eloquently and compassionately pitched for donations to the upcoming American Red Cross "Hats Off" statewide fundraiser next Saturday, March 31, with donations accepted in



person at KTA Super Stores Puainako and at Wal-Mart in Hilo or via check or cash via jars at our meetings. Funds raised will stay in the state of Hawaii to help people as part of our community's "social safety net."



President Joe encouraged Rotarians to read the latest issue of *The Rotarian*, especially the article about the help rendered in Japan after last year's earthquake, and then thanked **Gay Porter**, reporter, and **Scott Brand**, photographer, for last week's "Lava Flow," our club's own great publication.

Recognitions

Recognized for celebrating **Club anniversaries** were **Tom Brown** (3/17), **Naomi Menor** (3/18), **Laurie Bass** (3/18), and **Theresa English** (3/18).

Jon and **Kamali McElvaney** celebrated their wedding anniversary on March 19. **Jerry Watanabe's** twenty-four years of wedding bliss with **Sandy** comes from "just say 'yes'", with **Helene** and **Harvey Tajiri** celebrating their 44th anniversary today. **Helene** generously gave three checks for three great events that fall this weekend: her wedding anniversary, her birthday (on Sunday, the 25th), and her Club anniversary (also on Sunday). **The Rotary Foundation**, the **Hilo Rotary Club Foundation**, and the **Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation** each received \$50. Mahalo plenty, **Helene!**

Welcome!

President Joe invited **Helene** to introduce her guest, **Tammy Silva**, soon to be our newest Rotarian.



Tammy, she said, has a "rainbow of cultures and ethnicities" in her background. She's been married for nineteen years and has two daughters, ages eight and seventeen. Her nursing background includes a degree from HCC with ten years at

Birthdays:

Bob Fujimoto March 6
Helene Tajiri March 25

Club Anniversary:

Cindy Boots March 7
Tom Brown March 17
Naomi Menor March 18
Laurie Ball March 18
Theresa English March 18
Chris Tamm March 24
Helene Tajiri March 25
Gail Takaki March 28
Doug Arnott March 30

Wedding Anniversary:

Sam & Sandra Wallis March 1
John & Kamali McElvaney March 19
Jerry & Sandy Watanabe March 19
Helene & Harvey Tajiri March 23
Akira & Emiko Watanabe March 25
Doug & Mary Espejo March 29

Announcements:

Fri. March 30 Program
Reviving Chinese Culture through the Arts

Sun. April 1
East Hi Rotary Picnic

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

the Life Care Center, with her assuming duties as the Director of Nursing Services at the Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home in August 2011. She will get her BSN next month. **Tammy** thanked **Helene** for sponsoring her, credited her husband and children for being supportive of her career and personal goals, and said she was looking forward to "Service Above Self" for our community through being a Rotarian. **President Joe** had the honors of officially inducting her into the Club. **Welcome, Tammy!**

Happy Dollars

Saeko Hayashi, wearing her hard hat from her mountain work, gave \$50 to the **Hilo Rotary Club Foundation** to share her happiness that she's been able to provide First Aid but thankfully no CPR yet as trained by the American Red Cross, that she was grateful for the "Service Above Self" work in Japan with her being able to share in the first fish and shellfish from the severely affected fishing area after the earthquake last March, and that her son, **Takeru**, now taller than Mom, was leading an Eagle Scout project at his church, a project that includes building three benches to help engage youth attending services.

Ted Dixon, a director on the American Red Cross Board, gave \$100 for the "Hats Off" campaign, \$100 to the **Hilo Rotary Club Foundation** for the three volunteer co-chairs **Lorraine Inouye**, **Saeko Hayashi**, and **Cindy Boots**, and kudos to **Tammy** for her shoes ("love your shoes!").

Bobby Stivers-Apika was \$3 happy to encourage Rotarians to check out YouTube videos that feature thanks from Japan for all the help received.

Steve Yoshida was \$20 happy for the two AKHA students visiting in his home.

Nancy Cabral gave \$20 because she missed two meetings and was glad to be back, plus donated \$100 for the "Hats Off" campaign.

Yoko Hayano gave \$5 to share her happiness in helping with Keiki Vision plus acknowledging she forgot to be greeter today. She got a warm response.

Tammy Silva gave \$25 to say "Thank you" to **Helene** with best wishes to her on her anniversary.

Gay Porter gave a check to a **Foundation** with thanks to **Yoko Hayano** for helping out at **WHS Interact** when her own schedule precluded her from attending meetings.

Guest **Debra Lex** gave \$50 for the ARC "Hats Off" campaign thanks to the agency's work Hurricane Katrina, and **President Joe** donated \$20 for the cause via the Club's jar centerpiece. **President Joe** also shared he got to speak to his son in Afghanistan who has had positive experiences interacting with the local people.

Program

Steve Yoshida introduced two **Akha** students from Thailand, **Woranath** who goes by the nickname of "Meow" (for easier pronunciation) and "Kuro."



He relayed the fun story of **Noko** and his picking up the recent "road kill" of a chicken while driving to the airport to pick up **Meow** and **Kuro**, storing it in the trunk so that could dispose of it afterwards at the nearby County landfill, and then instead having **Meow** and **Kuro** being practical in suggesting that the chicken could be cleaned and cooked. They enjoyed tasty meals thanks to **Meow's** and **Kuro's** chicken-cleaning and culinary skills!

Both **Meow** and **Kuro** have scholarships to attend the University of Phapao but need to work for their room and board. **Meow** is studying finance and banking, and **Kuro** is studying social studies with a focus on teaching. Enterprising young women, they taught themselves how to dance and now are a big hit as dancers at a restaurant in their community for their dancing. Their PowerPoint presentations featured family and friends in northern Thailand with their presentation ending with the words "Kub Kun Kha" meaning "Thank you!" Their dancing was delightful, as was their expression of thanks to **Steve** and **Noko Yoshida** with whom they are staying a month to learn English.

In Closing

President Joe announced that next week's program will feature a speaker on **Reviving Chinese Culture through the Arts**. **Lorraine Inouye** volunteered to lead the Club in the **4-Way Test** of the things we think, say, or do and the meeting adjourned.



Photos by **Saeko Hayashi**

EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

