



# Rotary News **Lava FLOW**

November 30, 2012

92 YEARS OF SERVICE

Reporter: Mitchell Dodo

The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo



On this beautiful 335th day of the year, **President Alan Kusunoki** called to order the weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Hilo at 12:07 p.m. A good-sized group convened in the Mokuola Room of the busy Hilo Hawaiian Hotel telling tales of their recent Thanksgiving get-togethers. All-American **Tom Brown** was requested to lead the club in the recitation of the "Pledge of Allegiance" followed by group singing of "America the Beautiful", to which **President Kusunoki** commented "That was the best sounding rendition yet"! He then proceeded to enlighten us with his inspirational thought of the day, a quotation by **Solomon Ibn Gabriol**: "*the first step in the acquisition of wisdom is silence, the second listening, the third memory, the fourth practice, the fifth teaching others*".



**Greeters for the day** included **Helen Hemmes** and **Scott Brand**, of which **Scott** was recommended to come up to announce our visiting Rotarians; **Anita Cunningham** from the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay; **Noko Yoshida** and **Cathy Hashimoto** from the Rotary Club of South Hilo; **Marilyn Kovach** from the Rotary Club of Encinitas, California and her guest, **Bill Kovach**; **Glenn Harris** from the Rotary Club of Quincy, California; and our own **Dr. Robert Fox** introduced his guest, **Nina Buchanan**. After a few words from our guests and visitors were shared about their home clubs, **President Kusunoki** thanked **Jim Cheney** for being the "Lava Flow" reporter at the November 16th meeting and **Kerry Glass** for his photography skills.



**Announcements** were next on the agenda beginning with **Steve Yoshida** giving everyone an update on the upcoming **Peace Forum** in Honolulu. By now everyone knows the keynote speaker for this monumental event on January 25-27, 2013 is **Aung San Suu Kyi**. What most people don't know is she is being given a \$40,000 honorarium for her speaking engagement to which Rotary International is trying to off-set by encouraging participants to attend a "special reception" to raise funds. Fees begin at \$1000/person for individual entry with corporate sponsorship available at the \$5000 level for four people and \$10,000 for a table of 10.

**Tom Brown** announced (for **Tim Beatty**) about the annual "Seniors Luncheon" our club has sponsored for the past 30+ years at the Kamana Senior Center in Hilo. This event is scheduled for December 12, 2012 (Wednesday) starting at 11:30 a.m. with anticipation of 50 seniors attending. All club members are encouraged to come out and help with this memorable event.



**Wally Wong** was up next to invite members to sign-up for a shift on December 15, 2012 (Saturday) at the Salvation Army Christmas Bell-Ringing. A sign-up sheet was distributed for those interested.



Rotary Club of Hilo Bay member **Anita Cunningham** came up to the podium to announce she was \$10.00 happy for the opportunity to make an announcement about the upcoming Hawaii Island United Way fundraiser on December 4, 2012 (Tuesday) at Cronies Bar & Grill in Downtown Hilo. Four-time San Francisco Super Bowl champion, **Jesse Sapolu**, will be signing copies of his new book, "I Gave My Heart to San Francisco" from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. At around 6:30 p.m. a live auction will be held for San Francisco 49ers merchandise and a grand prize package including tickets for two to attend a 49ers football game, pre-game field passes, and tailgate party with **Jesse**. **Jesse** will also be the guest speaker at the Rotary Club of South Hilo at their meeting on Tuesday (Dec. 4th) and at the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay on Wednesday (Dec. 5th).



**President Alan** announced and encouraged members to attend the Rotary District 5000 Conference on May 17-10, 2013 at the Turtle Bay Resort Hotel on Oahu's North Shore. Those who are smart enough to sign-up by December 31, 2012 will enjoy a discounted registration fee of \$25.00, with fees going up after that.

President-Elect 2013-2014 was next called up to the podium to reveal his slate of officers for the upcoming Rotary year which included; **President Kerry Glass**, **Vice-President Alberta Dobbe**, **President-Elect 2014-2015 Richard Johnson**, **Secretary Susan Munro**, **Treasurer Corey Kawamoto**, **Sergeant-At-Arms** (your name here), **Club Services Tom Brown**, **Service Projects Mitchell Dodo**, **The Rotary Foundation Alan Kusunoki**, **Public Relations Bob Hanley**, and **Membership Nancy Cabral**, assisted by newer member **Tammy Silva**, who graciously volunteered on the spot. Thanks **Tammy!** Elections for these positions will be held at our

Birthdays:

Rand Mundo November 8  
Mike Robinson November 8  
Randy Hart November 12  
Kerry Glass November 22

Club Anniversary:

Bob Fujimoto November 16

Wedding Anniversary:

Gay & Chuck Porter November 7  
Steve & Noko Yoshida November 7  
Gene & Julia Tao November 13  
Susan Munro & Kerry Glass November 22

Announcements:

Fri. Dec. 7  
Susan Osborne & John Calvert  
Ho'oulu La-hui Trail Project

Wed. Dec. 12  
Kamana Senior Center Luncheon

Fri. Dec. 14  
Vocational Talks

Sati. Dec. 15  
Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Fri. Dec. 21  
Vocational Talks

Fri. Dec. 28  
No Meeting

Fri. Jan. 4  
No Meeting

President .....	Alan Kusunoki
President Elect .....	Kerry Glass
Vice President .....	Alberta Dobbe
Immediate Past President .....	Joe Hanley
Secretary .....	Richard Johnson
Treasurer .....	William Dolan
Sergeant-at-Arms .....	John McVickar
Attendance .....	Judy Gibson
Club Administration .....	Tom Brown
Service Projects .....	Mitchell Dodo
Rotary Foundations .....	Susan Munro
Membership .....	Nancy Cabral
Public Relations .....	Robert Hanley
International Service .....	Steve Yoshida
Community Service .....	Wallace Wong
Vocational Service .....	Bobby Stivers-Apiki
New Generations .....	Gail Takaki
Club Service .....	Tim Beatty
The Rotary Foundation .....	Susan Munro
Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation ..	Mitchell Dodo
Hilo Rotary Club Foundation .....	John McVickar

December 14th meeting. **Tammy Silva**, in her capacity as chairperson of the 2013 Embalmer's Ball fundraiser, also made an announcement our club's signature event will be held



on October 19, 2013 Saturday) at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel Mokuola Room. As one can never prepare too early for anything, sign-up sheets were distributed asking members for their help by signing-up to serve on the committee.

Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries were next on the agenda with **Kerry Glass** qualifying for the two; his birthday was on November 22nd (Thanksgiving Day this year) and wedding anniversary also on the same day, being married to another club member **Susan Munro** for 27 years. Congratulations, **Kerry** and **Susan!** The sole upcoming club anniversary belonged to **Russ Oda**, who on December 2, 2012 will have been a member of the Rotary Club of Hilo for 45 years. **Russ** still remembers his sponsor, **Bob Bethea**, and was \$45.00 happy in honor of the anniversary. The floor was then opened up for Happiness Dollars to which **Past-President Joe Hanley** raised his hand first. **Joe** informed the club he has three children, ages 27, 23, and 21, with the youngest (his daughter) getting engaged last Wednesday for which **Joe** was \$20.00 happy. **Marcia Sakai** was happy (for an undisclosed amount to the **Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation**) for the first birthday of her grandson. **Bobby Stivers-Apiki** was also happy to the **Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation** in the amount of \$20.00 for the recent help the Y's Men Service Club received from Rotary Club of Hilo members in the selling of Christmas trees.

**Lorraine Shin** was \$20.00 happy her world-famous son, **BJ Penn**, would be featured on FOX TV (free TV) at an upcoming fight for which he had been training extremely hard for. **Lorraine** felt the airing of the fight on the FOX network would allow for many more fans to watch the event. She also happy a recent video **BJ** has posted on YouTube has already gotten over 170,000 hits! **Dr. Rand Mundo** was \$20.00 happy to the **Hilo Rotary Club Foundation** for a letter he recently received from Rotary Youth Exchange student, **Kelii Mendonca**, who is currently studying abroad in Spain. **Rand** read the letter to club members which made mention of his daily activities and life in a foreign country.

**Jennie Johnson** was \$10.00 happy for raising over \$310.00 with the recent sale of Rotary Club of Hilo T-Shirts, which were distributed to members today.



**Judy Gibson** encouraged members to contribute

dollars into the jars on their tables to help off-set the \$175.00 fee for high school students to attend **Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA)** Camp next year. **Gail Takaki** also encouraged members to contribute to the **RYLA** Camp and made mention she had just returned from a trip to Disneyland with a group that had a wide diversity of age ranges. **Gail** also divulged that **Jesse Sapolu** had saved her life (twice), in her dreams that is, and after hearing **Anita Cunningham** announce about the upcoming book-signing it brought back the memories (dreams) for her. Anyone care to interpret **Gail's** dreams? **Newton Chu** was \$100 happy to make the announcement his daughter, **Stephanie Chu**, was recently accepted at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine in Honolulu. **Anita Cunningham**, after having had a moment to comprehend **Gail Takaki's** recent tale, made the announcement she also supported the **RYLA** Camp and **Gail Takaki** had better attend the **Jesse Sapolu** fundraiser on December 4th!

EVERY  
ROTARIAN  
EVERY  
YEAR

**Peace Through Service**  
**Sakuji Tanaka**  
Rotary International President  
2012-13

Photos by **Kerry Glass**

**Dr. Jim Kennedy** was next to come up and introduce our guest speaker for the day, current



**University of Hawaii at Hilo Chancellor Dr. Donald Straney.** **Dr. Straney** comes to Hilo after an impressive 23-year career at

Michigan State University where he served as the Chair of the Department of Zoology and was an assistant to the Provost for faculty development. He then went on to become the Dean of the College of Science at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona before moving to Hilo in July 2010. His presentation to our club was entitled *"Toward a Vibrant Economy for the 21st*

*Century"*. **Dr. Straney** cited numerous facts and figures about UH Hilo including a combined total of 8056 students between the UH Hilo and Hawaii Community College campuses, employing 926 people from the Big Island community, and 900 student employees. He stated statistics and forecasts show Hawaii County is the fastest growing county in the entire state which creates a need for more post-secondary education and training, of which UH Hilo and HCC is prepared to offer on an increasing level. The Chancellor credits Hilo as a special place where the University can accomplish more through Public/Private Partnerships and through the efforts of good people in the community like our club member, **Marcia Sakai**, as one of the many reasons why UH Hilo is able to achieve what it has and keeps growing. He went on to cite more facts and figures and future goals of the University. Upon completion of this presentation **Dr. Straney** was presented the legendary **"Gerard Carter Koa Pen"** and there was only time left for a few questions as the clock has passed 1:00 p.m. The **"Four-Way Test"** of the things we think, say, or do, was administered by **Cindy Boots** and the meeting was adjourned at 1:09 p.m.

