



Rotary News *Lava* FLOW

September 20, 2013 92 Years of Service

Reporter: Tammy

The Weekly Review of the Rotary Club of Hilo

Opening Action

On Friday, September 20, 2013, attendees of the Rotary Club of Hilo's weekly meeting were warmly greeted by newly inducted **Christina Dhillon & Mike Robinson**. **President Kerry Glass** called the weekly meeting to order by saying, "Good morning." **President Kerry** caught & corrected himself with a "Good afternoon" to all in attendance.



Honorary member, **Gerard Carter**, led the

group in the American flag pledge. Following suit, **Alberta Dobbe** identified that Saturday, September 21, 2013, was International Peace Day, & she shared Gandhi's Prayer for Peace.



Inspirational Moment

"I offer you peace. I offer you love. I offer you friendship. I see your beauty. I hear your need. I feel your feelings. My wisdom flows from the Highest Source. I salute that Source in you. Let us work together for unity and love." ~ Mahatma Gandhi

Special Mahalo

- Mahalo to the two hospitable greeters, **Christina Dhillon & Mike Robinson**, for taking the time to welcome your fellow Rotarians with warm smiles & hugs.
- Appreciation was expressed to the previous week's Lava Flow reporter, **Theresa English**, and photographer, **Alberta Dobbe**. Additional thanks were extended to Lava Flow Coordinator, **Tammy H. Silva**, and Lava Flow Publisher, **Ed Hara**. Your ongoing dedication and valuable time is greatly appreciated for a job well done!

Warm Welcome to Visiting Rotarians and Guests

Greeter **Christina** announced & recognized the visitors:



David Hurd & Anita Cunningham of Rotary Club of Hilo Bay

Phoebe Lambeth & Rosemary Linden of Rotary Club of South Hilo

Corey Kawamoto

introduced his guest, **Dr. Nicole Fujiyama**

Helene Tajiri

acquainted the group with her guest, **Marina Henriques**; a 3rd time visitor



Nancy Cabral announced her guest, **Kathleen Gilbert**, from YWCA...**Kathleen** is becoming a regular...Hint-hint...Per **President Kerry**, "**Nancy** is working on it...getting her (**Kathleen**) here"

Polio Plus Campaign

October 26 is Polio Plus day

Our goal was to raise \$400

Our contributions to date were \$631 & rising – WAY TO GO ROTARIANS!!!

Give Aloha – Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program

From September 1, 2013 – September 30, 2013

Contribute to **Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation**

In 2013, **HRYF** gave 48 scholarships totaling \$250,000

Organization Code: 77199

Show your Foodland Maka'i card to the cashier at any Foodland, Sack N Save or Foodland Farms and make your tax deductible donation to our organization up to a cumulative total of \$249 per person. Your donation will be added to your grocery purchase total & the name of our organization will appear on your receipt.

- If you need an acknowledgement of your donation, contact: www.hryf@hawaii.rr.com
 - Your support is needed & greatly appreciated
- There is ALWAYS something to do if you're a Rotarian or if you know one...

Announcements & Upcoming Events:

- **Interact Beach Clean-Up Day**, Saturday, September 21, 2013
-Liliuokalani Park 8:00a – 11:00a
- **Oktoberfest by Hilo Bay Rotary**...According to **Anita Cunningham**, it's the best food, beer, & wine event, & it's a major fundraiser for their club...By the way...did **Anita** attend our most recent Hilo Brewfest? Friday, October 4, 2013- Aunty Sally's \$40
- **Ironman Triathlon**, Saturday, October 12, 2013
-Bicycle turnaround point in Hawi 8:30a – 2:00p
-Please help...there's 10 people on the list to help
-You get a free shirt
- **Chili & Dessert Cook Off**...BRING IT ON!!!
-Thursday, October 24, 2013, Wailoa State Park
- **Membership & Foundation Seminar**...
-More information to come, Saturday, November 2, 2013

Birthdays:

Yoko Hayano September 3
John McVickar September 4
Bob Fox September 5
Craig Shikuma September 9
Cel Ruwethin September 10
Cindy Boots September 14
Tim Beatty September 22
Sam Wallis Jr. September 22
Aki Watanabe September 24

Club Anniversary:

Tom Olcott September 1, 2006
Joe Hanley Jr. September 4, 1987
Jimmy Yagi September 17, 1965
Ian Birnie September 20, 1985
Newton Chu September 22, 1995
Jerry Watanabe September 22, 1989
Tim Beatty September 27, 2002
Corey Kawamoto September 27, 2002

Wedding Anniversary:

Tim & Kanoa Beatty September 2
Helen & Don Hemmes September 2
Rand & Joann Mundo September 6
Misti & James Tyrin September 8
Alan & Zohra Kusunoki September 20

Announcements:

-Fri. Sept. 27 Jason Chu
-Fri. Oct 4 Club Assembly Speakers
-Fri. Oct. 11 Glen Harris
Achieving Your Dreams
-Fri. Oct. 18 Dr. Randy Hirokawa
Group Dynamics
-Thurs. Oct. 24 Chili/Dessert Social
-Fri. Oct. 25 No Meeting
-Fri. Nov. 4 Cliff Townsend
Puna Geothermal Plant

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	Steve Yoshida
Community Service	Wallace Wong
New Generations	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

• **Scholastic Books** – Kindergarten Reading Program

-According to **Glenn Harris**...WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

-There are approximately 20 volunteers at this time

-This is an outstanding opportunity to reach out & impress upon a number of students by reading to them for only 15 – 30 minutes per month

• **Educational Forum on the JONES ACT REFORM**

-Co-sponsored by the Hawaii Island Portuguese Chamber of

Commerce & the Conservative Forum for Hawaii
-Friday, October 4, 2013, Naniloa Crown Room, 6:00pm

-Contact Walter Moe, Consecutive Forum President: 966-5420

-Contact Joseph Marsh, Portuguese Chamber President:
935-1865

What is the Jones Act Reform???

-The Jones Act is a 1920 federal shipping law which affects nearly every product brought in to or out of Hawaii, by requiring all shipping between American ports be on American built, flagged, & crewed vessels only. It has been hailed as preserving a key American marine resource & sea-lift capability as a national defense supplement, & criticized as a 93 year old outdated law that increases the cost of living for every citizen substantially & unnecessarily.

-According to **Chris Tamm**, the paper messed up the date & time information of the scheduled event, & to top it off...It is scheduled on the same night as the Oktoberfest. It was suggested that Rotarians attend the Oktoberfest, grab a sausage & beer, & head on over to the Jones Act Reform Educational Forum...WHAT A TERRIFIC PLAN.

-This forum could not come at a better time; **Doug Arnott** recently called & said that the sky was falling...A couple flew all the way from Vancouver to Hawaii to catch cruise boat; however, the eager passenger could not get onto the vessel.

-The phone tree was immediately put into effect; **Susan** contacted **Lorraine Inouye & Lorraine** called her connections in Washington...WAY TO GO, **LORRAINE** ?

-What interesting timing on this adverse event...We are still unsure if they'll get on the ship.

Club Birthday Celebrations and Anniversaries

-**Birthdays Celebrations:**

Cindy Boots – September 14

Christina Dhillon – September 14

According to **President Kerry**...**Cindy** & **Christina** are the same age since they share the same birthday. **Cindy** chimed in stating that

Christina does not want to be the same age as she is since **Cindy** identified that **Christina** was born when she (**Cindy**) was a freshman in high school.

-**Anniversaries:**

Alan & Zohra Kusunoki – September 20
(41 years together...WHAT A BLESSING)

-**Club Anniversaries**

Jimmy Yagi – September 17 (48 years)

Ian Birnie – September 20 (28 years)

Happy Dollars

-**Cindy Boots** shared HAPPY DOLLARS for her happy birthday with a check to the **Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation**

-**Christina Dhillon** collectively reveled in her glee with **\$20 – HAPPY DOLLARS** for her newly acquired position with Bank of America Merrill Lynch...Congratulations & good luck ?

-**Susan Munro** was **\$80** happy for **John McVickar's** come back after having out bid her on a fine piece of jewelry; thank you **John** for securing another pair. Another **\$20 – HAPPY DOLLARS** was added to the mini fortune for **Doug Arnott's** efforts to render aid

-**Jim Cheney** contributed **\$10 – HAPPY DOLLARS** to the general fund

-**President Kerry** boldly accused **Theresa English** for an alleged typo in last week's Lava Flow; however, **Nancy Cabral** quickly retorted in **Theresa's** defense...**Nancy** donated **\$5 HAPPY DOLLARS** for **Theresa's** "owie." **Nancy** was also gone for 10 days to attend 12 rodeos...And for this...she was **\$5 happy** & glad for a cushion seat to sit on & for the Lava Flow reports that helped her to catch up on Rotary meeting scoops. The Lava Flow is our very own version of IN TOUCH WEEKLY magazine

-Welcome back **Richard & Jennie Johnson!** On their most recent adventure, **Richard** got to spend time with his most favorite Rotarian finding ducks & keeping ducks from getting ill. Thank you, **Richard & Jennie**, for making a positive difference in this world ?

-**Reverend Tom Olcott** thanked **Sally, Biff, John**, & his wife for aiding with his (**Reverend Tom's**) moving sale. According to **Reverend Tom**...with the success of the moving sale, his daughter strongly believes that he has found a new career in sales & for that reason, he has contributed **\$20 – HAPPY DOLLARS** to **Polio Plus**

Special Recognition – **PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY**

-**Dave Hurd** attended this meeting to honor 3 special newly appointed members of the **Paul Harris Society**

-Members of the **Paul Harris Society** agree to give **\$1000** every single year; this contribution constitutes of 3% of the world & 35% of Rotary funds

-It is because of this generous contribution that

Photos by **Gail Takaki**

significant changes occur in the world: 1) children are able to get vaccinated, 2) individuals are taught to read & write, 3) women are promoted within societies, 4) clean drinking water is provided for individuals & families, & 5) professionals convene to resolve conflict...WOW...THAT \$\$\$ GOES A LONG WAY!



-Acknowledged group members were **Russ Oda**, & **Richard & Jennie Johnson** (both were recognized as Level 3 Paul Harris Society members)

-All 3 individuals were given their pins, & according to **President Kerry**...there was lots of bling going on

-This was prime time for a photo opportunity to go into the Lava Flow, Facebook, & our club website

Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker was none other than



Lieutenant Colonel Eric "Tubby" Shwedo – At the looks of "Tubby" – **President Kerry** didn't think that his nick name was a good fit; it must have been a past life that "Tubby" has overcome...Sure enough, "Tubby" identified that the

very first question he gets asked is about his nick name. He (Tubby) was not very slim as a child & he has 5 brooding brothers to make certain that he never forgets about that

Lieutenant Colonel Shwedo is the commander of the U.S. Army Garrison, Pohakuloa...aka PTA (Pohakuloa Training Area). He was commissioned in 1992, has been associated with various Special Forces Groups since that time, & has been at PTA for 1 year now

He has served as Senior Tactical Officer, Plans Officer, Detachment Commander, Plans / Unconventional Warfare Chief, Company Commander, Battalion Executive Officer, Commander of Robin Sage (final phase of Special Forces Qualification Course)...To name a few

He has been deployed to Ecuador, Kuwait, Afghanistan (x2), Iraq, Pakistan...And more that he cannot mention

Lieutenant Colonel Shwedo is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command & General Staff College, Special Forces Qualification Course, Infantry Basic & Advanced Courses, Special

Operation Language Course, Survival Evasion / Resistance / Escape Course, Jumpmaster Course, Ranger School, & a Graduate of the University of Central Florida

Prior to taking over command at Pohakuloa, he was with the Special Operations Command as Lead Planner for the Afghanistan Operational Planning Team

The training that takes place at PTA is very valuable, it is their responsibility to keep people alive & keep names off of the wall that recognizes names of fallen soldiers

PTA Mission – to provide support for single service, joint, & combined training in order to afford warfighters the most realistic & flexible training environment available in the Pacific Region

PTA Key Tasks – 1) Ensure responsive & effective support to units training at PTA, 2) Continue to set the standard for cultural & environmental stewardship, & 3) Develop & maintain relationships with the local community, civic organizations, state & local government

PTA Endstate – USAG Pohakuloa is established as the Pacific Region's Combat Training Center

According to **Alberta Dobbe**, the Girls Scouts is a neighbor of PTA, & **Lieutenant Colonel Shwedo** recognized the Girls Scouts as a very good neighbor

PTA is used by various branches of the armed forces, & it is a unique & miserable climate that is perfect for field training: 1) there is not enough oxygen – therefore, soldiers are not able to breathe well, 2) it's at a higher altitude & closer to the sun – soldiers are conveniently sun burnt, 3) a soldier may easily get dehydrated, 4) the location is primed with high winds & ask, 5) there are significant temperature swings – it may go from melting hot to freezing cold within the same day. It is because of this that soldiers must be responsible & accountable for keeping oneself & equipment clean; if one person gets sick...The whole platoon gets sick.

Training at PTA – 11,500 personnel trained, 41 rotations, ideal training environment, train as you fight, & the unit replicates deploying

PTA Training Facilities – 51,000 acres of impact area, 26 live ranges, 2 live fire shoot houses, Military Operations in Urban Terrain facility (MOUT), convoy live fire, helicopter gunnery, mortar & artillery live fire, surveyed drop zones, 2 helicopter refueling points / 1 with arming capability, close air support & bombing, & 3 Forward Operating Bases (FOB)

- Community Relations Initiatives –
- Unit Projects: West Hawaii Veterans Cemetary & project units for bigger impact
- County Fire / Mutual Aid
- Fire Dept. / Police Dept. Competitions
- Police / Sherriff Range Use
- Hunting
- Food Basket Tourney

- School Trips
- Hawaiian Homelands
- Veteran Groups
- Civil Air Patrol
- Youth Challenge
- Boy Scout Conclave
- Military Aviation / Waikoloa
- Civil Defense
- Natural Resources – managed by full-time biologists (cost \$5 million / year)
- Cultural Resources – managed by a full-time archeologist (cost \$2 million / year)
- As military leaders, they function with the criteria of keeping & doings things that are legal, moral, safe, & within their power; they cannot just say "no"...They must come back with another plan
- According to **Lieutenant Colonel Shwedo**, PTA training occurs with the goal of meeting the commanders' needs, & PTA protects the name designation that is training at the time
- There are approximately 225 civilians who are employed at PTA, & a total of only 5 military personnel
- Besides military training, PTA has continues to collaborate with **Dr. Thomas** at UH Hilo & Hawaiian Homeland on a water well project; they test water quality & have detected millions of gallons of fresh water that originates at Mauna Kea & flows into Hilo Bay. It is postulated that takes a whopping 2000 years for the water to travel the distance
- PTA is also working to recycle & reduce trash by 90%
- Regardless of the valiant efforts put forth by PTA, there are many residents who protest against them; however, to express our club's appreciation for PTA, Nancy Cabral has volunteered our group's support to deter such actions
- In conclusion, & to express our gratitude for



...serving our nation, **President Kerry** presented **Lieutenant Colonel Shwedo** with

the environmentally conscientious reclaimed Koa wood pen made by none other than **Gerard Carter**

Conclusion

To conclude our weekly meeting, **Russ Oda** was asked to lead the group in the guiding principles of Rotary...the FIVE-WAY TEST...Oops...I meant...**Four-Way Test**; however, we must never forget to HAVE FUN (Rotary International, 2012).

References
Rotary International. (2012). Guiding principles. Retrieved April 15, 2013 from <http://www.rotary.org/en/aboutus/rotaryinternational/guidingprinciples/pages/ridefault.aspx>