



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

\*February – Rotary World Understanding Month.

Feb. 26-28 RYLA

\*March 1 & 15 – Literacy Month. Volunteer readers for all ages are welcomed at Laupahoehoe Community Public Charter School (LCPCS), 5:30 pm-7:15 pm.

March 4 – Rotary Club of North Hawaii RYLA Whale Watching Sunset Cruise Kawaihae 4:30-6:30 pm. Cost: \$75 call Erik @ 345-9033.

March 11 & 12 – Relay For Life UH Hilo Rotaract Club. Club is seeking volunteers and donations.

March 19 – District Assembly at Kamehameha HS School campus 8 am-2 pm brkfst/lunch served.

March 19 – Makeover Lili'uokalani Garden Park.

March of h 19-wing Dance Social Elks Club 7-9PM

\*April 2-Merrie Monarch “100 Years of Rotary” Parade

Youth Empowerment & Success (YES) East Hawai'i. Nellie Mamuad, Island Coordinator, of YES, a Family Program that serves foster youth 14 to 26 years of age expressed her appreciation and gratitude to President Wally and our club for the support of their Holiday Celebration held in December. President Wally organized group games and activities. A thank you card from the youth and agency was passed around. Nellie will be our program speaker in April where we will learn more about YES! Hawai'i.

Fiji Needs Our Kokua! In an emotional plea, Steve Handy described the devastation of Fiji that was hit by Cyclone Winston on February 20. Steve reported that “35,000 homes were destroyed and 72,000 persons are in shelters”. “My cousin said this was the worst storm he has ever seen”. Financial donations are needed to purchase ‘Shelter Boxes’. Shelter Box is an international organization that provides emergency shelter and vital supplies to support communities around the world overwhelmed by disaster and humanitarian crisis. Rotary International is the cornerstone partner upon which Shelter Box is built. The box includes essential supplies like tents, water purification units, ground sheets, mosquito nets, and tools. President Wally reported there are collection jars on each table and asked the membership for donations. Checks are payable to the Hilo Rotary Foundation. The response was immediate and encouraging! Steve Handy kicked off the project with a \$1,000 donation.



HOW “HAPPY DOLLARS” ARE YOU? Today, all ‘dollars’ contributed are ‘Happy Dollars’

as President Wally designated all contributions will be designated to the Fiji Shelter Box Project. Over twenty-one identified (21) members contributed \$3,420 plus the table jars accounted for another \$321 for a grand total of \$3,741! Congratulations to Kerry Glass & Susan Munro (\$100) for the Fiji Shelter Box Project; Mike Meyer for losing 25 pounds and donation of 25 lbs. of rice; Tim Beatty (\$200) for his new baby boy Luke; Marcia Prose (\$10) for Palace Theatre's March newsletter and son's UH Jujutsu car wash; Bobby Stivers-Apiki (\$10) for 9<sup>th</sup> year club anniversary; Lorraine Shinn's (\$100) birthday celebration with family, Nancy Cabral (\$100) for a successful rodeo, visit with close friend and Shelter Box; Connie Ichinose (\$100) for her son's upcoming wedding in August; Keith Okamoto (\$100) for his "first" happy dollars to support the Fiji project; Stu Hussey (\$100) to honor Steve Handy and his great work with Fiji; Sally O'Brien (\$25) and Biff Kennedy (\$100) for their support of the Fiji project. Added their support to the Fiji contribution through the table jars were: Helen Hemmes (\$50); Helen Tajiri (\$25); Cindy Boots (\$200); Lisa Rantz (\$50); Kathleen McGilvray (\$50); Wally Wong (\$100); and a special Mahalo to Wayne Kaneshiro (\$1,000). Thank you to the anonymous donors who contributed \$321 to the table jars.

LET'S CELEBRATE! Happy Birthday to Jim Cheney, Feb. 28 and Happy Club Anniversary to Ed Hara, Feb. 27, 29 years of service! Awwwwsome guys!!

TODAY'S PROGRAM. President Wally introduced Anais Gude and JR Fujimoto of Teach For America (TFA) Hawai'i Island. Anais and JR are dedicated teachers; Anais was raised in Colorado and JR in Hawaii and work for TFA a movement of leaders who work to ensure that kids growing up in poverty get an excellent education. They recruit and train people from all career backgrounds to become teachers in low-income rural and urban communities and leave a positive impact on their students. TFA Hawai'i aims to recruit Hawaii born residents to return home from the continent and teach in their home communities. TFA serves 35 diverse schools on Oahu and Hawaii Island and attempts to transform the educational landscape in the State. DOE strongly supports TFA Hawaii. Anais and JR are making aware the opportunities for individuals to participate in TFA and appreciated speaking today. Alan Kusunoki encouraged them to speak to the other East Hawaii Rotary Clubs. President Wally thanked and presented Rotary cups to Anais and JR.

UPCOMING PROGRAM GUEST SPEAKERS: March 3 – Rev. William Knight, Peace For All; March 11 – Heather Rosario, Penn Fitness Center; March 18 – Dr. Angela Fa'anunu, Townscape, Inc. Environmental Consulting.

FOUR WAY TEST: In closing today's abundant meeting, President Wally called upon Laupahoehoe Interact Club President to lead the "Four Way Test".

ADJOURNMENT: President Wally wished everyone a safe and good weekend and adjourned the meeting at 1:01 pm.

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