

# Rotary Club of Hilo



# LAVA FLOW



January 15, 2016

Charted: December 1, 1920

Reporter: Double H

On a wonderful sunny Hilo Friday afternoon, it's time for our weekly gathering of our Rotary Club of Hilo meeting! Its a great day to be here and meet again with all of our contemporaries. So here we go.

## GREETERS

Welcoming everyone with open arms, smiles and good words were **Judy Gibson** and **Bob Hanley**. **Judy** was making it special for many of us by engaging in personal conversation and heartfelt interest in how we were today. What a gracious duo to meet to start the proceedings.

## SOCIAL TIME

One of the purposes of having a regularly scheduled weekly meeting is to allow us to socialize with each other. Some of us take this more to heart than others, like Past President **Chuck Porter**. He was a table away from someone he wanted to talk with and instead of getting up and walking over to her, he threw sugar packets in her direction to try and get her attention, causing the wait-staff all kinds of headaches in picking these things up afterward. **Mr. Porter** never did succeed in getting **Misti Tyrin** to notice that someone was trying to have HER GET UP TO GO TALK with him until someone pointed out to her all the sugar packets around her chair. Ah yes, the relaxed atmosphere and casualness of our membership.

(You can tell this writer is desperate for things to write about in this edition of the Lava Flow if he has to resort to such meaningless drivel as the above.)

## OFFICIAL START OF THE MEETING

**Pres. W. Wong**, actually starting the meaning in a somewhat dignified manner versus his normal "Jay Leno" type beginning. He adlibbed about Rotary and what good it does and how it makes everyone feel before gonging the meeting to order. Nice touch here for a change!

**Misti** was called upon to lead us in the Pledge to the Flag and then the grouping sang the Doxology shown on the screen. And we must be getting used to this because we are actually starting to sound better.



**Judy Gibson** and **Bob Hanley**. **Judy** was making it special for many of us by engaging in personal conversation and heartfelt interest in how

The thought for the day is A'ohe lau komo'ole (Any leaf goes in) – Said of one who does not care whether food is clean or unclean, as long as it suppresses hunger.

## VISITORS AND GUESTS

Greeter **Judy** was called upon to introduce our just a few guests and one visiting Rotarian, who were:

**Lorraine Davis** from the Rotary Club Hilo Bay  
**Kanani Silva**, daughter of

**Tammy Silva**

**Keith Okamoto** of the

Dept. of Water by **Pres. W. Wong**



Our Youth Exchange student **Carolinne Pazian** unfortunately couldn't get away from other commitments and wound up being a no-show.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Appropriate kudos where given to last week's Lava Flow reporter and photographer, **Biff Kennedy** and **Tammy Silva**, respectively.

January is Vocational Service month and **Biff**

has 4 locations for us to go to on the 29th passed around a sign-up sheet for everyone to choose where they would like to go to see what that particular organization does and offers. So be sure to get your name on the list before any site fills up and cannot take any additional visitors.



**Ed Hara** is turning into an old f\*\*t and has been granted senior exempt status. Actually good for him because this status requires a lot of years in Rotary, not just old age.

## A quick listing of upcoming events:

Jan 25-28 – Volunteer to make the count (joining in with **Malu Debus** in trying to determine a close approximate total of homeless in and around Hilo – phone her at 217-2830 or contact **Pres. W. Wong** to sign us for this effort).

Jan 29 – Vocational Visits (no official meeting here at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel at afternoon) Jan 30 – Matson Ka Ipu Aina clean up (for the Club Foundation to get \$1,000.00 – see **Randy Hart**)

Feb 1 – Walk about for Homelessness & Hunger Awareness, with **Dr. Cliff Kopp**.

Feb 13 – Kuhio/Kalaniana'ole Park clean-up  
Feb 26-28 – RYLA camp weekend (see **Gail Takaki** about helping or volunteering)

March 5 – Hilo Heart Walk (see **Kerry Glass**)

March 19 – District Assembly (see **Randy Hart** or **Alan Kusunoki**)

For more details about all these events (and more), please check out our website [www.hilorotary.org](http://www.hilorotary.org).

**Lisa Rantz** has been named the new President of our **Rotary Club of Hilo Foundation**. Congratulations!



The nomination period is open for scholarship applications (\$5,000.00 at least)

from the **Rotary Youth Foundation**. Deadline for submission is 02/07 and, unfortunately according to **Mitch Dodo**, children of active Rotarians are not eligible for these scholarships.



Our kettle ringing for the Salvation Army back in December netted over **\$1,200.00**. This easily surpassed the **\$612.00** or so that the **Rotary Club of South Hilo** generated. Another victory for us – YAY!!

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

No birthdays or Wedding Anniversaries for Club members this past week

**Stew Hussey's** Club Anniversary is today, Jan. 15, (23 years – WOW!) and naturally he is a no-show today.

## HAPPY DOLLARS

**Chuck Porter** contributed a substantial amount due to his long and R-Rated story about his bonding with **Mitch** and **Newton Chu** on a previous trip to our sister Club in Hiroshima South (this newsletter is G-Rated so details of that story cannot be described here) and used that as an incentive for us to consider attending the upcoming trip to Japan this April.



**Lorraine Shin** is overjoyed about the publicity her son has garnered in our local paper recently AND that he has been advised not to compete any more in the MMA events (he's been sort-of retired anyway but this secures his not fighting any more).



Birthdays:

Bobby Stivers January 17  
Gail Takaki January 17  
Newton Chu January 19  
Mitchell Dodo January 19

Club Anniversary:

Masao Amako January 1, 2004 (12)  
Raymond McPherson January 1, 2004 (12)  
Glenn Harris January 11, 2013 (3)  
Judy Gibson January 13, 2006 (10)  
Bob Hanley January 14, 2011 (5)  
Stew Hussey January 15, 1993 (23)  
Nancy Cabral January 29, 1988 (28)  
Jenny Johnson January 30, 2009 (7)  
Richard Johnson January 30, 2009 (7)

Wedding Anniversary:

Mitch & Noriko Roth January 13 (25)

Announcements:

Jan. 22 - Jan Ortiz - Blue Zone  
Jan. 29 -Vocational Visits  
Feb. 5 - Dr. Robert Johnson - Dengue Awareness  
Feb. 12 - Dr. Cliff Kopp  
Walk About for Homelessness & Hunger

President ..... Wally Wong  
President Elect..... Randy Hart  
Immediate Past President..... Richard Johnson  
Vice President ..... Mitchell Dodo  
Secretary ..... Susan Munro  
Treasurer ..... Mike Robinson  
Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Kathleen McGilvray  
Membership ..... Connie Ichinose  
Public Relations ..... Marcia Prose  
Rotary Foundations ..... Kerry Glass  
Club Service ..... Jean Sugiyama  
International Service ..... Stew Hussey  
Community Service ..... Reese Mates  
Youth Service ..... Tammy Silva  
Vocational Service ..... Biff Kennedy



**Bobbie Stivers** is happy to just have had another birthday recently, due to health problems.

**Nancy Cabral** encouraged all to contribute and help **RYLA** next month and paid for another sponsorship (she has already paid for one last month) for a student participant.



**Susan Munro** contributed **\$20.00** to **RYLA** even though she doesn't like kids (like many of us, I'm sure).



**Cindy Boots** also provides some funds for **RYLA** (though not saying she doesn't like kids).

GUEST SPEAKER

**Pres. W. Wong** then did the introductions for our Guest Speaker, **Joe Kent** of Renewable Energy Services, Inc. to talk about Solar Energy and how it affects us.



**Mr. Kent** quickly brought us up to speed by reminding us of the new solar regulations that went into effect in Hawaii late last year. These regulations have a large impact on the state because approximately 14% of all homes in Hawaii have some sort of solar. The use of solar has a great impact in helping the environment because, obviously, fossil fuels are not being used. It's virtually unlimited here (Hawaii is always sunny), clean, and everyone can have access to it.

Here in Hawaii, like across America, energy demand is much higher in the evenings (5:00pm – 11:00pm) and puts a drain on the electrical system during those hours. So with solar there is a lot of extra energy in the daytime to be used during at night.

Helco, though, has no good way of storing this excess daytime energy and their system goes through peaks and valleys in creating energy. The way lots of systems are set up on the grid now is that excess energy goes back from the using site to Helco and they are overwhelmed in the daytime. Thus the ban on no new grid sites (from 10/12/15) that do this. They want to charge variable rates for energy and electrical use during different times of the day because of the peaks and valley usages. This proposal has not been received well and there is

resistance to it. Old systems already in use have been grandfathered in as ok for Helco but they don't want to accept new systems (they say they are maxed out at the present).

To compensate for the excess daytime energy, battery storage has become an option. Besides the basic self-supply batteries, technology in battery development is helping to overcome its basic deficiencies. Lithium and Salt Water batteries have become available in keeping energy stored and available for on-demand use.

There would be a complete global changeover in energy consumption is everyone could avail themselves to some sort of solar usage.

Poignant questions were asked and answered as well as **Mr. Kent** could and then **Pres. W. Wong** presented him with our Rotary Cup, as a way of thanking him for coming here today.



FOUR WAY TEST

To close today's session, one lucky member (unfortunately this reporter neglected to write down who that person was) was called upon in the recitation of **the 4-Way Test**.

As a quick reminder, upcoming speakers for the next few weeks are:

- Jan 22 – **Jana Ortiz-Misiasek**  
-Blue Zone Moai
- Jan 29 – **Vocational Visits**
- Feb 5 – **Dr. Robert Johnson**  
– Dengue Awareness
- Feb 12 - **Dr. Cliff Kopp**  
– Walk About for Homelessness & Hunger

And with that, the gong was rung and the meeting closed for today.

See you all next week now.  
Pau...



Photographer: **Bob Hanley**