

Rotary Club of Hilo



Lava Flow



February 7, 2020

Chartered: December 1, 1920

Reporter: Shane Okimoto Photographer: Eric Anderson

President Anna Liu called meeting to order and asked Pete Muller to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.



President Anna thanked our greeters Tim Beatty & Steve Handy. Steve introduced our guests: Past District Governor Pete Muller from Hilo Bay, President Deborah Nichols from Pahoa, Drew Pelletier (guest of D'Andrea Pelletier), and Niki Hubbard (guest of Maureen Poirier).



President Anna also thanked photographer Eric Anderson and reporter Shane Okimoto.

Our new Chinese phrase for the day is potentially a very important phrase. *Ce Suo* means toilet. President Anna suggested most of us just say "toilet" because most Chinese people will understand the English word and our accents are not the greatest.



A couple of members are celebrating birthdays this week. Shane Okimoto celebrated his "25th" birthday yesterday and appreciated everyone serenading him with their sweet melodies. Additionally, Helen Hemmes will be celebrating her birthday tomorrow.



Wedding anniversaries celebrated this past week include

Jacob & Danielle Bratton on 2/4, Biff & Anna Kennedy on 2/4, and .

President Anna celebrates her 3rd club anniversary and marvels at how much can be done in just a few short years in Rotary. Others celebrating their club anniversaries are

Toshi Aoki with 18 years of service, Chuck Porter with 26 years, and Mike Meyer with five.

President Anna encouraged everyone to attend the Rotary International Convention on Oahu this summer. Having the International Convention so close to home is truly a once in a lifetime experience. Reminders of upcoming deadlines: March 31 is the last day for discounted registration and April 30 is the last day for registration/cancellation requests.



Bobby Dugar announced the next meeting of the Social Squad will be on Wednesday, February 19 at Temple Bar beginning at 5:30 pm. All members and prospective members 21 years and older are invited to attend. This month all proceeds will go to the Fiji Literacy Project.



Bobby also announced that the Heartwalk will take place on March 28. Our club is putting together a Rotary team headed up by him and Lisa Rantz. He has a sign up sheet for everyone interested. A challenge has also been made with a public dance on stage at the event on the line.

Bobby also explained that today is National Wear Red Day to raise awareness for heart disease and stroke, especially in women. All wearing red got together for a group photo to become "Insta-famous."

Beverly Heikes announced that RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) facilitator training takes place tomorrow from 9-11 am at the prosecutor's office with the youth facilitator training to follow. They are preparing for their 3-day camp at the end of the month. The team was recently able to recruit two students from Upward Bound, and is still accepting applications from sophomores and juniors interested in leadership development.



Mike Meyer announced that he has recently been told that he has been in the papers. He assured everyone that it was not in the



police blotter or obituary section. He will be performing Our Town with the Hilo Community Players over the next three weekends at the East Hawaii Cultural Center.

Corey Kawamoto announced that the annual Chili Social is scheduled for Thursday, March 12. It will be held at AJA hall beginning at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6:00. Cost is \$20 per person. There will be a chili & dessert contest. Sign up is currently available through Club Runner.



President Anna kicked off happy dollars by announcing a donation she received from I Kitagawa & Co. for our service to the community. They donated \$5000 to the Rotary Club of Hilo and an additional \$5250 to The Rotary Foundation. (It was in memory of former member Brian Kitagawa, Ian's dad)



Other happy dollars donations included Mike Meyer assuring Shane Okimoto that people who celebrate more birthdays live longer.

Treena Breyfogle was happy that Wally piggybacked her after she hurt herself during his class, but more for the fact that he later brought her some much needed wine.



Genie Phillips announced that her son broke his back in CA and has friends taking care of him. She is excited that he will visit her here in a few weeks where she will be the one to take care of him.



Randy Hart thanked Connie Ichinose for standing in for him as the sponsor for new member Julie Kron and shared that his new grandson just turned 1 month old.



Chris Tam will be leaving next week for a 10-day trip to Tanzania.



Pete Muller celebrated his 56th wedding anniversary.

Birthdays:

Shane Okimoto February 6
Helen Hemmes February 8
James Yagi February 18
Lorraine Shin February 20
Naomi Menor February 23
Jim Cheney February 28

Club Anniversary:

Toshi Aoki February 1, 2002 (18)
Anna Liu February 3, 2017 (3)
Chuck Porter February 4, 1994 (26)
Michael Meyer February 6, 2015 (5)
Helen Hemmes February 13, 1988 (32)
Dirk Yoshina February 14, 1992 (28)
Robert Fox February 24, 1984 (36)
Keith Okamoto February 26, 2016 (4)
Eddie Hara February 27, 1987 (33)

Wedding Anniversary:

Biff & Anna Kennedy February 4 (52)

Announcements:

Fri. Feb 14 - No Meeting
Fri. Feb 21 - Meeting
Marine Stewardship & Waste
Management in Fiji
Fri. Feb 28 - Youth Challenge
w/ Diana Kelley
Fri. March 6 - Daniel Sayre Memorial
Foundation w/ Frank Sayre
Fri. March 20 - Hilo Brew Fest Kickoff
Fri. April 3 - PGV Update on restarting
w/ Michael Kalekini
Fri. April 24 - Healing Surf Foundation
w/ Kalani Kahaliomi

Club Administration 2019 – 2020

- President – Anna Liu
- Past President – Keith Okamoto
- President Elect – Nancy Cabral
- Vice President – Mitch Dodo
- Secretary – Jen Tanouye
- Treasurer – Corey Kawamoto
- Sergeant at Arms – Jacob Bratton
- Rotary Foundations – Kerry Glass
- Membership – Maureen Poirier
- Public Relations – Marcia Prose
- International Service – Steve Handy Jr.
- Community Service – Wally Wong
- Vocational Service – Bobby Dugar
- Club Service – Shane Okimoto
- New Generations – Beverley Heikes
- Program Chair – Mike Meyer
- Attendance Chair – Judy Gibson
- Lava Flow Chair – Susan Munro
- Greeters – Cathy Gray

Foundation Chairpersons:

- Hilo Rotary Club Foundation – Tim Beatty
- Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation – Mitchell Dodo
- Sunao Wada Foundation – Mitchell Dodo



Susan Munro finally received her building permit and can begin with her remodel.

Malcolm Chun had not been able to attend a meeting for the last three months and was happy to just be there and that **Mitch Roth** is running for mayor.



Deborah Nichols was excited to see how a big club does things.

Nancy Cabral was pleased to hear about our club's continued involvement in **RYLA** and also for the upcoming 28th Annual Panaewa Stampede Rodeo. She provided a comp ticket to the rodeo next weekend for each person and reminded everyone that they could enter for a chance to win \$500 by signing up to play with bulls.



Bobby Dugar adopted his 5th rescue dog.

President Anna, on her drive over the mountain, was amazed to see both mountains with snow on them.



Bobby Dugar introduced our *guest speaker*, **Lauren Nickerson**, who holds a special place in his heart as the mother to his five rescue dogs and two rabbits. **Lauren** serves as Community Programs Director for Hawaii Island Humane Society. She says she is not that comfortable on a microphone since she usually talks to animals. She did a great job, which I hope does not qualify our club as a bunch of animals.



Lauren shared lots of great information about the **Hawaii Island Humane Society (HIHS)**, including its locations, programs, and mission. **HIHS** is the only open admission shelter on island, meaning that it will not turn away companion animals; including dogs, cats, horses, turtles, and guinea pigs among others. **HIHS** took in over 13,000 homeless animals through its Keaau, Kona, and Waimea locations and hopes to give every animal every chance possible for a better life.

Programs include the Foster program where people can take home almost any animal, which not only helps the animal's behavior around humans to make it more adoptable, but also increases capacity to take in and care for new animals. Other shorter term programs

include the Field trip program where people can take a dog for a few hours to go hiking or to the beach, which reduces stress on animals and improves behavior, all the while showing the public what kind of dogs are available for adoption. An extension of this program is the Sleepover program, where people can take an animal home for a night or two. Business Foster is for adult cats, with **HIHS** providing all the food, cat litter, and litter box to a cat friendly office where adoptable cats can meet future forever parents.

Lauren hopes to continue to educate the next generation and increase **HIHS's** social media presence. They are on Instagram and Facebook which helps to promote awareness and make connections. With all of the programs, there is a great need for the community. Volunteers are always in demand at the shelters to help with cleaning, socializing animals, writing bios, taking pictures, posting online, and providing administrative help. Off-site help includes transporting animals, fundraising, and allowing flyers to be posted in businesses (virtual fostering). Every little bit counts for monetary donations, but in kind donations like towels are also accepted and **HIHS** has an Amazon wishlist as well.

Lauren accepted a number of great questions from club members and provided her contact information for any further inquiries: lauren@hihs.org, 808-334-3361

President Anna asked **D'Andrea Pelletier** to lead us in the **Four Way Test** and then adjourned.



National Wear Red Day

