

Rotary Club of Hilo



Lava Flow



March 12, 2020

Chartered: December 1, 1920

Reporter: Susan Munro

Photographer: Susan Munro

Club members and guests converged on the AJA Hall in Hilo at 5:30 on March 12 for this year's **Chili and Dessert Challenge**, aka the **Chili Social**.

The Social Committee (including **Corey Kawamoto**, **Toshi Aoki**, **Tim Beatty**, **Steve Handy**, and **Ray McPherson**) were there as usual, getting everything organized.

Judy Gibson was manning the check-in table, as usual.



Elbow bumps replaced hugs and handshakes, but everyone was happy to be there, and enjoying the company.

Kerry Glass handed out books to the Rotary in Kindergarten volunteer readers.

Kelvin Watanabe brought a big crew of guests from Hawaiian Telcom.

After getting the dinner organized, the Social Committee gathered by the tailgate of someone's truck, enjoying their "secret stash" of poke. This year they also had beer from Fiji.



President Anna Liu had arranged for a substitute (because of work demands), but she managed to be there on time after all.



She called the meeting to order and asked **Joe Hanley** to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.



As has been the case since the first Chili Social in 1994, the entrée and dessert courses were provided by members who brought their creations to be judged. Judging was open to anyone who didn't bring a dish.

Tim Beatty announced winners when the meal was over.

CHILI:

1st place to **Shane Shitebata** -- and he's not even officially a member yet!



2nd place to **Corey Kawamoto**.



3rd place to **Mike**, spouse of **Beckie Marshall**.



4th place to **Cathy Gray**.



DESSERT:

1st place to **Debbie Minicola** (Debbie didn't attend but sent her entry with **Lani Olds**: cake squares with salted caramel topping and whipped cream).



2nd place to **Connie Ichinose** (beautiful tiny cheesecake bites with lilikoi and ohelo toppings).



3rd place to **Susan Munro** (panna cotta with strawberries & balsamic vinegar topping)



At the Social, we don't have a business meeting, just a chance to get to know each other a little better.

Newton Chu commandeered the microphone after dinner to go around the room soliciting input and disclosing interesting facts about attendees.



Newton recognized long-time member **Ian Birnie** visiting from Oahu. **Ian** was club president in 2001. Honorary member and **PDG**



Pete Muller and his wife **Roberta** were introduced.

Newton couldn't resist pointing out that **Pete** once left our club to form another Rotary club in town. [That's OK, **Pete**, all is forgiven.]

Jill and **Steve Jacunski** were in attendance, from the Rotary Club of Hilo Bay.

ADG Randy Hart and his wife **Lydia** were introduced. **Newton** says if you want to stay at KMC, but aren't military, **Randy** might still be able to find a reservation for you.



And a little-known fact about **Dirk Yoshina**: he and former member **Doug Espejo** had a band called "Midlife Crisis"?

And did you know that **Lani Olds**, one of our club's newest members, is a cousin of **Ian Birnie**?

Mike Meyer brought his son **Timothy**. **Bob Fox** and his wife **Nina Buchanan** were present. **Newton** ribbed **Bob** about his outspokenness.

And new-ish member **Benjamin Mark**? A Wisconsin "Cheesehead", like long-time-member-now-in-Wisconsin **Cindy Boots!**

Newton recognized **Helene** and **Harvey Tajiri** and remembered when **Harvey Tajiri** was in state politics.

And did you know that **Jim Cheney** has been a serious bridge player for years? There were 68 attendees.

Birthdays:

Bob Fujimoto March 6
Bobby Dugar March 9
Helene Tajiri March 25



Club Anniversary:

Cathy Gray March 3, 2017 (3)
Cindy Boots March 7, 1997 (23)
Tom Brown March 17, 1989 (31)
Naomi Menor March 18, 1988 (32)
Tammy Silva March 23, 2012 (8)
Chris Tamm March 24, 1995 (25)
Helene Tajiri March 25, 1994 (26)
Galen Ichinose March 31, 2017 (3)
Thomas Jimenez March 31, 2017 (3)



Wedding Anniversary:

Sam & Sandy Wallis March 1 (51)
Charlene & Amos Meyers March 7 (49)
Mitchell & Karen Dodo March 12 (15)
Jim Cheney & Xiao Ying Sun March 18 (15)
Jerry & Sandy Watanabe March 19 (31)
Beverly & Ken Heikes March 23 (24)
Helene & Harvey Tajiri March 23 (52)



Announcements:

Fri. March 20 - No Meeting
Fri. April 3 - PGV Update on restarting
w/ Michael Kalekini
Fri. April 24 - Healing Surf Foundation
w/ Kalani Kahaliomi
Fri. May 8 - Shelter Box w/ Resse Mates

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



**No Meeting this
Friday
March 20, 2020**

Drink your beer
somewhere else...

