

Rotary Club of Hilo



Lava Flow



May 29, 2020

Chartered: December 1, 1920

Reporter: Susan Munro

Photographer: Bobby Dugar

Getting Started

From precisely, Zoom meeting host **Kerry Glass** rang his Swiss cowbell, and **President Anna Liu** called the meeting to order. **Kimo-Jim Becker**



led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. **Anna** thanked today's photographer and reporter: **Bobby Dugar** and **Susan Munro**. And, as every week in her year, introduced us to today's Chinese phrase:



My name is _____
?? _____



Wo Jiào (Wor Jyaow) _____

Guests

Marcia Prose introduced her guest **Romeo Garcia**. **Romeo** described himself as "a recovering Rotarian" who's possibly looking for a new club to join. He is an educator and he works at Connections Public Charter School in Hilo. He was a Rotary member in Oakland California.

Celebrations

Birthdays

Kathy Borer May 23

Anita Tatum May 24

Ian Birnie May 28

Anniversaries

Joe & Diana Hanley, 36 years on May 26

Jen & Stefan Tanouye, 15 years on May 29

Announcements

June 12 and June 26. June club meetings will be held via Zoom. The June 19 meeting was changed to June 26. June 12 will be a Club Assembly, with reports from the club's Areas of Service. June 26 will be **Anna's** wrap-up of her year, plus an informal installation for incoming **President Nancy Cabral**. [For these meetings, use the same link you used for any previous meeting. If you need another invitation, let **Kerry Glass** know.]

Installation of 2020-2021

Officers and Directors. The in-person installation party for **Nancy** and her team will happen once in-person meetings are possible.

July 10. **Nancy** hopes that the first meeting of her year can be in-person, and it may be at a new venue. She is negotiating with the Nani Loa. Stay tuned for details.

Dues. Invoices were emailed earlier this week. They are due on June 30. You can pay all by June 30, or pay half by June 30 and the remainder by December 31. These are tough economic times, and **Nancy**

doesn't want to lose any members because of dues considerations. Call her to discuss. [With that said, please remember that the club pays District and RI semiannually for each member enrolled as of July 1 and January 1. If you are planning to leave the club, please let us know before that date.]

Happy Dollars

Anna has \$100 Happy \$ for the **Hilo Rotary Club Foundation** because of her promotion; she will now be managing the Kamuela branch of First Hawaiian Bank.

Newton Chu is equally happy with \$ for **HRCF**: congratulations to **Anna** on her promotion, and happy because his wife **Roberta** retired last week.



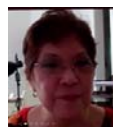
Nancy has \$100 for **HRCF** too, because she's happy for **Newton** and **Anna**.



Helen Hemmes also had a contribution to **HRCF**, because she has three grandchildren, and one will celebrate a birthday soon.



Helene Tajiri followed with her own **HRCF \$**, because she appreciates the phone calls she gets from **Helen**.

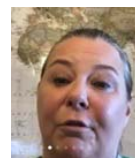


Charlene Meyers also made a contribution to **HRCF** today, a change from her usual beneficiary, Polio Plus.

Today's Program:

Reese Mates, speaking about Shelterbox

Reese Mates, a former member of our club who recently rejoined, gave a presentation on Shelterbox. Years ago, she heard about it at her club in Chicago. She has been working with them since then. From its beginnings 20 years ago, with a Rotary club in England, Shelterbox has become an independent worldwide organization, providing families with emergency shelter after disasters. The boxes are delivered to local families, often with the help of Rotarian volunteers. Each box has a heavy-duty tent, a toolkit, bedding, solar lights, mosquito netting, cooking equipment, and school materials for children. At this moment there are 10 deployments around the world for cyclones, flooding, conflict, and drought.



Kimo-Jim says his former club made regular contributions towards the cost of a box, which is about \$1000.

News from our members

With a few minutes to spare, **Anna** invited members to share their news:

Chris Tamm has "nothing to share" but he and **Barbara** are happy to be in their new house in Pepeekeo.

Mitch Dodo's daughter **Marissa** graduated from the 8th grade recently and will be moving on to Hilo High. His second daughter is at E.B. DeSilva. At work, **Mitch** and his staff are adjusting to the new pandemic rules: the chapel, which seated about 200 in pews, has been rearranged: only 36 chairs now. Only small family services are permitted now, but he hopes they may be able to have larger services on July 1. But no printed program distribution, and no food after the service. The new rules mean he needs more staff for making sure that customers are social distancing.

Charlene and **Amos Meyers** hike every day in Hawaii Volcanos National Park, and **Charlene** is baking regularly, and distributing her wares to the neighbors. [If you know **Charlene's** cooking skills, you must wish you lived in Volcano.] Settlement on the sale of their house is planned for June 19.

Real estate is surprisingly busy, says **Genie Phillips**. She closed another deal. And she has a new puppy, who is an escape artist.

Dirk Yoshina say shopping for groceries is a hassle these days, what with masks and waiting in lines, but that's only once a week. He's enjoying more time at home, mowing. He misses in-person meetings with friends.

Helen Hemmes attended a "virtual" memorial service recently, for a brother-in-law who died of Covid-19. A small group of relatives attended in person, and everyone else via the internet. These days, she says, is a good time to reach out to family.

Patty Terada spoke up to commend local businesses, workers, and service people for dealing with the changes that this pandemic requires. She is grateful.

Nancy says she's been buying lunch for everyone in her office once a week. Buying take-out is a good thing to do to support local businesses. She also



Birthdays:

Steve Handy May 2
Connie Ichinose May 5
Patty Terada May 13
Kathy Borer May 23
Anita Tatum May 24
Ian Birnie May 28

Club Anniversary:

Kerry Glass May 1, 2009 (11)
Susan Munro May 1, 2009 (11)
Charlotte Kekela May 10, 2019 (1)
Ian Kitagawa May 12, 2006 (4)

Wedding Anniversary:

Toshi & Kahori Aoki May 1 (37)
Nancy & Al Cabral May 1 (31)
Gerard & Kathleen Carter May 1 (36)
Steve & Shari Handy May 3 (22)
Kathy & Joe Borer May 16 (28)
Connie & Galen Ichinose May 17 (5)
Tammy & Kala Silva May 17 (26)
Joe & Diana Hanley May 26 (36)
Jen & Stefan Tanouye May 29 (15)

Announcements:

Fri. June 5 - No Meeting
Fri. June 12 - Meeting via Zoom

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

mentioned that OK Farms has a beautiful farm food box, that you can order and pick up in town.

Newton Chu said his recent flight to Oahu was “really different”. Not many passengers on the plane, National Guard checking folks at the airport. Downtown Honolulu was like a “zombie apocalypse” with no one around.

Former members **Richard** and **Jenny Johnson** sent a report via email:



“We moved from Hawaii to the Mainland in 2017.

We settled in Coronado, CA where we met and got married over 50 years ago. Coronado is a beach resort community between San Diego harbor and the ocean. We’re members of the Rotary Club of Coronado which has 260 members. **Jenny** volunteers in the Birds and Mammals Lab at the San Diego Natural History Museum, helping the curators maintain their collection. **Richard** volunteers as a docent on the USS Midway Museum.”

Alan Kusunoki sent a report all the way from Oahu: “I have been very busy in Honolulu since leaving Hilo in the summer of 2017. It took about a year to construct our new home, which was exhausting. But that didn’t prevent me from attending more than ten different Rotary clubs on O’ahu. In addition, when the protests against TMT prevented access to Maunakea, I began speaking at several clubs about the issues. My talks centered around my work with the Smithsonian for over 25 years. Nevertheless, it always ended with Q&A regarding TMT, which I tried to very delicately handle.

For the past two years, my greatest efforts have gone to promoting alliances between Rotary clubs and Peace Corps. Rotary and Peace Corps have worked together for many years (one example is PolioPlus — Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) help Rotarians with organizing and administering the oral vaccines. Rotarians have sponsored grants that include Peace Corps Volunteers in the execution of the project. Recently, I’ve been helping PCVs evacuated from their country of service due to COVID-19. These evacuated volunteers have very little money, have returned home to the highest unemployment in history, and must find accommodations. Our local association of returned PCVs started a relief fund for these folks. D5000 Rotarians have matched the donations of our RPCV members.

And finally, here’s a photo of **Mike Meyer** on his bike. **Kerry** spotted **Mike** in Pepeekeo on Sunday.



The End

Nancy led us in the **4 Way Test**, and the meeting was adjourned. Our next meeting will be on June 12, via Zoom. Use the link from any prior meeting.

