

Rotary Club of Hilo



Lava Flow



January 25, 2019

Chartered: December 1, 1920

Reporter: the "Don"

Photographer: Steve Handy

It was an absolutely gorgeous cloudy day in Beautiful Hilo, Hawaii. As we have done for over 98 years, Hilo Rotarians gathered together for fellowship and *"Service above Self"* in the quaint Hilo Hawaiian Hotel.

Greeted with a smiles and warm handshakes by Greeters



Beverly "Vikings mom" Heikes and **Maureen "du" Poirier**. We Hilo Rotarians happily accepted our badges and prepared to enjoy the feast prepared by the chefs of the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel.

Our unbelievably fearless **98th President Keith "Aquaman"**



Okamoto greeted the club with that big watery smile of his and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Then **President Aquaman** reminded everyone that the Rotary theme for the year under his leadership of Rotary was *"Be The Inspiration"* and just like that, we were inspired.

Prez Aquaman then introduced the Lava Flow writer **"The Don"** and his trusty photographer **Steve "footlong" Handy**. Our Greeters announced that **"The Don"** had a guest, **Jeff Sulzbach**, the CEO of the Aloha Council, Boy Scouts of America. **Jen "K&J Tires" Tanouye** brought super-citizen **Lorraine Mendoza!**

Announcements

Da Prez announced that both **Mitchell "Dead Center of Town" Dodo** and **Newton "The Don" Chu** shared a birthday on January 19. Could they be twins? You be da judge! Also **Genie "not Al" Phillips** had her 2nd Rotary Anniversary on January 20! Yay **Genie**, thanks for being a great member!

Our next big event is our **mini social mixer** on February 7th at 6:00 p.m. at "Pineapples Café" in downtown Hilo. Hosted by awesome members **Kerry** and **Susan "Surfing Safari" Munro-Glass.** A couple spots may still be available but you must contact **Kerry** or **Susan** right away!

Also we are helping out at member **Chuck "not Gay" Porter** and his crew at Hilo Car Wash Express' Grand Opening on January 26.



Charlene "not Mike" Meyers gave a big plug for the 4 club **Rotary Foundation Dinner** event on January 29! Be there to support the **Rotary Foundation!** Contact **Charlene** for more information.

Marcia "Palace" Prose announced the **2019 Hilo Brewfest Kickoff Party** on February 1. In lieu of our regular meeting we will be tasting brews and getting ready for our biggest event of the year! Come at 11:30 am to get a seat!

\$\$ Happy Dollars \$\$

Mike "not Charlene" Meyer was happy to be back out riding his bike.

Chris "not Barbara" Tamm was happy to be back in the Hilo after his recent travels through the universe.

Nancy "Cowgirl" Cabral was happy to be getting ready for the annual Panaewa Stampede Rodeo coming up! Get your tickets now! She was happy to have 4 boys, no scouts, but she donated to the Boy Scouts.



Jen "K&J Tires" Tanouye was happy that she was able to introduce super-citizen **Lorraine Mendoza** to Rotary and to be getting ready for **RYLA** coming up soon.

Sally "Reiki" O'Brien was happy to that she attended our last mini-mixer and said she had the greatest time ever!

Maureen "du" Pourier was happy that her kids were back in college in Arizona and doing real well.



Susan "not Kerry" Munro was happy that she is able to host the mini-mixer coming up and she is putting together photos of all the club flags our members have collected from all their world-wide travels.

The Don was happy to be 64 years old and happy that he was able to bring the CEO of the Aloha Council Boy Scouts of America, **Jeff Sulzbach**. **Jeff** gave a short update about the Boy Scouts, or should we say "SCOUTS" because now girls can join! Wow, amazing development. He was in Hilo to kick off the annual "Friends of Scouting" campaign where community folk donate to a great organization that helps kids in our community. **The Don** was happy to write a big check!



Birthdays:

Anna Liu January 9
Bobby Stivers-Apiki January 17
Gail Takaki January 17
"The Don" Chu January 19
"Mitch" Dodo January 19

Club Anniversary:

Masao Amako January 1, 2004 (15)
Raymond McPherson January 1, 2004 (15)
Eric Anderson January 6, 2017 (2)
Bob Hanley January 14, 2011 (8)
Nancy Cabral January 29, 1988 (31)

Wedding Anniversary:

Mitch & Noriko Roth January 13 (28)

Announcements:

Feb. 1 - Brewfest Kickoff
Feb. 8 - Nancy Cabral - Rodeo Time!!
Feb. 22 - Chris Honda, Hi Fire Dept.
CPR Training
Mar. 8 - Mayor Harry Kim
Mar. 22 - Sarah Luchenbill
American Cancer Society
April 5 - Lauren Nickerson
Hawaii Humane Society

Rotary Club of Hilo Board of Directors 2018 - 2019:

- President – Keith Okamoto
- Past President – Steve Handy
- President Elect – Anna Liu
- Vice President – Mitch Dodo
- Co-Secretary – Treena Breyfogle
- Co-Secretary – Jan Tanouye
- Treasurer – Corey Kawamoto
- Sergeant at Arms – Genie Phillips
- Rotary Foundations – Malcolm Chun
- Membership – Connie Ichinose
- Public Relations – Marcia Prose
- International Service – Sally O'Brien
- Community Service – Wally Wong
- Vocational Service – Bobby Stivers-Apiki
- Club Service – Kerry Glass
- New Generations – Brittany Luna
- 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

President Aquaman was also happy to be president and help scouting so he wrote a check as well. Thanks Rotary!

SPEAKER

Our guest speaker was **Kuulei Kekuewa**, Deputy Director of the **Hawaii Youth Challenge Academy**. She enlightened us with the description of this special Academy.



The mission of the **National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program** is to intervene in and reclaim the lives of 16-18 year old at risk youth, producing program graduates with the values, life skills, education, and self-discipline necessary to succeed as productive citizens. The **National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program** is a community-based program that leads, trains and mentors 16-18 year old youth so that they may become productive citizens in America's future. This award-winning program has been recognized as one of the nation's most effective and cost efficient programs for targeting youth who are at the greatest risk for substance abuse, teen pregnancy, delinquency, and criminal activity.

The core components of the 22-week Residential Phase is followed by a year-long mentoring relationship with a specially trained member from each youth's community. The eight core components of the program are:

- Academy Excellence
- Health and Hygiene
- Job Skills
- Leadership/Followership
- Life Coping Skills
- Service to the Community
- Physical Fitness
- Responsible Citizenship

HAWAII – YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM SUCCESS

- 78% of **ChalleNGe** graduates receive their high school equivalency diploma.
- 48% join the workforce.
- 19% continue their education.
- 6% join the military.
- Program participants donate over 9,000 hours of community service annually,

valued at more than \$175,000.

• The **Hawaii Youth Challenge Academy** has awarded more than 3,800 academic credentials.

• Frequently asked questions:

What ages do you accept?

Applicants must be at least 16 and no older than 18 years of age on the start date. Applicant age is determined on the day of in-processing,

Is there a cost for the program?

No – The program is funded by the State of Hawaii and the Federal Government. Although parents are not required to pay tuition for the program, some personal items may have to be purchased prior to and during the class cycle.

Is military service required upon completion of the program?

No – Although the **Youth Challenge Academy** is 'quasi-military' in structure, Cadets are not obligated nor are they expected to join a military service.

Will Cadets receive their GED or high school diploma?

Cadets will earn a high school equivalency diploma through the C-BASE program. This program is very similar to the GED program and has five unit exams and one mastery exam. There is no physical difference between the GED and the C-BASE diplomas.

Can a student return to high school after completing the 22 week residential phase? Not normally. Once a cadet completes the program and receives their equivalency diploma, they are encouraged to continue on to college. The academy assists with the college application process and even offers a limited number of earned scholarships, if the graduate so chooses.

What a terrific program **Kuulei!** Thanks for sharing this with our members.

President Aquaman himself then led us in the **4-way test** of the things we think, say and do, and then we were out of there. And that's a fact Jack.

