

Rotary Club of Hilo



Lava Flow



October 23, 2020

Chartered: December 1, 1920

Reporter: Helen Hemmes

Photographer: Bob Hanley

Pre-Meeting. Those of us who signed on early for the Zoom meeting were welcomed and had fun talking story.

Opening. Club **President Nancy Cabral** called the meeting to order at noon for a “fast but fun” meeting. The screen shared featured the words “**Rotary Opens Opportunities.**” We all were asked to unmute ourselves to join together for the Pledge of Allegiance. She thanked **Beckie Marshall** for being the reporter and **Susan Munro** the photographer for our Oct. 9 Lava Flow issue, with **Helen Hemmes** and **Bob Hanley** reporter and photographer, respectively, for this week.



Guests welcomed were **Chancellor Bonnie Irwin**, today’s speaker, and our soon-to-be newest Rotarians **Izzy Huertas** and **Leanna Pohevitz**.

Announcements and Events. We were all encouraged to visit our website www.hilorotary.org (updated, thanks to **Kerry Glass** and **Susan Munro**) to “see all the great things you have been doing.”



Upcoming events include the reminder to **Vote**—mail ballot by October 27,

the October Service Project of getting a donation of **100 masks** (or more),

the **Silent Auction** Fund Raiser (on line to Oct. 26), and

Rotary World Polio Day on Oct. 24.

In November, **Treena Breyfogle** is coordinating the preparing of **Hygiene Glam Bags** for our “Home Challenged” (both Nov. 5 and Nov. 10),



Kimo-Jim Becker is our speaker on **Global Grants in Nepal** at our next meeting on Nov. 6,

Veterans Day, Nov. 11, the Clubs will have a **Joint Rotary Service Project** for the Veterans Home, details to be announced.

Let’s Celebrate!

Birthday celebrations are those of

Stan Fortuna (Oct. 10),

Nancy Cabral (Oct. 12),

Beverly Heikes (Oct. 15),

Tammy Silva (Oct. 15).

Wedding anniversaries recognized are those of

Malcolm & Cecelia Chun (15 years),

Craig & Linda Shikuma (40 years),

Newton & Roberta Chu (38 years),

Beckie & Michael Marshall (29 years)

Club anniversaries are those of

Treena Breyfogle (Oct. 12, 2012),

Alan Kusunoki (Oct. 15, 1993),

Joy Matsuura (Oct. 17, 2019),

Patrick Guillen (Oct. 21, 2016),

Cowboy Kaneshiro (Oct. 22, 1999).

Introduction and Installation of New Members.



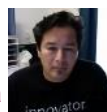
Connie Ichinose, Membership Chair, thanked **Anna Liu** and **Wally Wong** for nominating the new members. **Wally Wong**, the cook in charge of our Club’s volunteers preparing meals on Thursday noon at the Hawai’i Island Recovery Home, introduced **Izzy Huertas**, case manager.



Anna Liu shared that **Leanna Pohevitz** is the right member for our Club, as she loves to coordinate clean-ups, is currently in law school, and wants to help the community in promoting civil rights.



President Nancy did the formal installation, and we all welcomed our two newest members, though perhaps none of us stood up as we normally do when a new member is installed. **Doug Adams**, Assistant Governor, officially welcomed them on behalf of our District Governor, a special Club celebrating its 100 years this year.



\$ Happy Dollars \$

Marcia Prose shared that the Palace Theatre will be 95 years old on October 26. **President Nancy**, describing herself as a “capitalist who loves the money,” encouraged a donation. (Check it out – came later.) **Marcia** encouraged us to check out Theatre activities on Instagram and Facebook.

Marcia Prose donated \$50 to **The Rotary Foundation**. Thanks! All of us are encouraged to give so we have **Every Rotary Every Year** giving.



Patrick (Pat) Guillen donated a total of \$100, \$50 for the Chancellor’s being with us today as our speaker, and \$50 to share that yesterday’s groundbreaking ceremonies for sports at UH-Hilo are the result of a capital improvement project (CIP) in the works for four years—funding from the State of Hawaii for the CIP and not available as part of the annual budget.



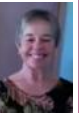
Helene Tajiri donated \$\$ as well, thankful that **Izzy** joined our club, and happy to get to know members as part of the cook crew in the Hawai’i Island Recovery Home kitchen.



Randy Hart, District Governor Nominee, said he would match **Pat’s** gift, and that his alma mater is East Illinois University, where **Chancellor Bonnie Irwin** was employed in the past. Plus the University is famous for its football players – “Go Panthers!”



Susan Munro donated \$\$ to the **Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation** in honor of our new members and asked if they could share info about themselves.



Welcome, New Members!

Luanna Pohevitz shared that she is seeking to be a civil rights lawyer and anticipates moving back to Hilo (currently is in West Hawaii and is attending law school in New York virtually).



Izzy Huertas said he and his wife moved to Hilo from Utah this summer. He loves the ideals and philosophy of Rotary. He has a B.S. in social work and over 20 years of construction experience.



More Happy \$\$.

President Nancy said she would make a donation to the **Hawaii Rotary Foundation** in honor of our two new members and to help our Club reach its goal of \$5,000.



D’Andrea Pelletier Virtuoso donated \$ to share that she would sing on **World Polio Day**, and she noted she was open for holiday performances.

Birthdays:

Maureen Poirier	October 3
Chris Tamm	October 6
Stan Fortuna	October 10
Nancy Cabral	October 12
Beverly Heikes	October 15
Tammy Silva	October 15
Gerard Carter	October 26

Club Anniversary:

Randy Hart	Oct 01 1994 (26)
Biff Kennedy	Oct 01 1986 (34)
Nate Chang	Oct 03 1997 (23)
Ron Dolan	Oct 04 1991 (29)
Lara Hughes	Oct 09 2020 (0)
Treena Breyfogle	Oct 12 2012 (08)
Alan Kusunoki	Oct 15 1993(27)
Joy Matsuura	Oct 17 2019 (01)
Patrick Guillen	Oct 21 2016 (04)
Cowboy Kaneshiro	Oct 22 1999 (21)

Wedding Anniversary:

Malcolm & Cecilia Chun	Oct 12 2005 (15)
Craig & Linda Shikuma	Oct 15 1980 (40)
Newton & Roberta Chu	Oct 16 1982 (38)
Beckie & Michael Marshall	Oct 19, 1991 (29)
Chris & Barbara Tamm	Oct 26, 1968 (52)


Announcements:

- Oct 30—No Meeting
- Nov 06—Kimo Becker
Global Grant in Nepal
- Nov 13—No Meeting
- Nov 20—Audrey Mitchell
Hints on Preparing Turkeys &
Thanksgiving Dinners
- Nov 27—No Meeting
- Dec 4—100 year history of the Rotary Club
Of Hilo, Part 1

Club Administration 2021-2021

- President- **Nancy Cabral**
- President Elect- **Beverly Heikes**
- Vice-President- **Kerry Glass**
- Past President- **Anna Liu**
- Secretary- **Susan Munro**
- Treasurer- **Jen Tanouye**
- Sergeant-at-Arms- **Jacob Bratton**
- Foundations- **Shane Okimoto**
- Membership- **Connie Ichinose**
- Public Relations- **Marcia Prose**
- Community Service- **Wally Wong**
- Vocational Services- **Mike Meyer**
- International Service—**Patrick Smith**
- New Generations- **Gail Takaki**
- Club Service- **Bobby Dugar**
- Hilo Rotary Club Foundation- **Tim Beatty**
- Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation- **Mitch Dodo**
- Programs- **Jim Cheney**
- Attendance- **Judy Gibson/Dirk Yoshina**
- Lava Flow— **Genie Phillips**

Introduction of Our Speaker.

 **Jim Cheney**, our program planner, invited **Patrick (Pat) Guillen** to introduce his boss, **Chancellor Bonnie Irwin**, now Chancellor at UH-Hilo for one and one-half years. He noted her impressive qualifications and positions at Cal State Monterey Bay, UC Berkeley, and East Illinois University. He noted she has a steady hand and a clear vision for UH-Hilo during these challenging times.



Our Speaker – Chancellor Bonnie Irwin.

 **Chancellor Bonnie** enjoyed acknowledging the importance of Eastern Illinois University for sports and then focused on the mission and purpose of UH-Hilo—to challenge students to reach their highest level of potential and provide opportunities for them to get involved in the community.


UH-Hilo campus is technically closed to the public but there are over 300 students living in the residence halls. Most of the classes are held on line, but labs and other clinical classes are allowed to go forward with meeting in person. She was not sure yet whether commencement (in December or May?) would be held via drive by or virtually.

UH-Hilo is recognized as America's most ethnically diverse University; while there is a rich mixture of diversity, over 1000 are Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian. Currently there are 3,165 students; less than in 2012, when there were over 4,000. The student population is predominantly female due to key classes, including nursing, pharmacy, and education. A total of 1,634 students are from Hawai'i Island.

The current budget is "not pretty" -- \$70 million – but UH Hilo is one of the largest employers in the County. The school is looking at a serious budget decline, possibly totaling up to \$14 million. Yes, it will take maybe five years to get back to today's budget, with some layoffs anticipated.

While UH-Hilo faces hard choices, the goal is to focus on "students first" so that programs attract students and ensure their graduation. Unique topics for UH-Hilo can include geology, marine science, and rural health care. The goal, too, is to partner with local agencies/companies doing research and to look for opportunities for mentoring of students and for enterprises willing to host them as interns. Ideally students can graduate and to get a decent-paying job so they can stay here—not leave the area.

Questions and Comments.

 **Chris Tamm** thanked the Chancellor for her talk and noted that a factor in retaining students would be to explore with county government employees the need to establish small

businesses or restaurants within walking distance of campus—to attract students, so they don't feel there is "nothing in Hawaii" to do. (He offered \$\$ to the charity of her choice, and she noted scholarship worked.) **Alberta Dobbe** inquired about UH-Hilo's policies on accepting credits from other universities – a ten year limit? **Kimo-Jim Becker** shared the comments of young males who work with him and who are not going to college – can't afford – and then asked what Rotary Clubs could do to help UH-Hilo. **Chancellor Bonnie Irwin** noted that there is financial aid available for students, but that many fail to apply. She noted that partnering and mentoring with students, e.g., giving them advice, is helpful.

In Closing.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m., with thanks to all for attending and with **Helen Hemmes** invited to lead the Club in the **4-Way test** of the things we think, say, and do.

