As Hilo was overflowing with all sorts of



Hawaiian and Merrie Monarch activities, it was very appropriate that The Rotary Club of Hilo joined in the atmosphere. The off-

site meeting was held at the YMCA. Kudos to BOBBY STIVERS-APIKI for his hard work and coordination with staff and awesome Caterer, Annie's Diets, and a good turn-out of members and guests made for a great meeting on Friday noon, April 21st.

The crowd was already happily digging into their "onolicius" Hawaiian lunch of kalua



pork, mini-laulaus, lomi salmon plus poi, rice and purple sweet-pototo salads with wonderful haupia pudding for desert, when President RANDY HART called on Past President

STEW HUSSEY to lead the Pledge of Alligience. CINDY BOOTS welcomed guests from the Pahoa Sunset Club, President Elect Ron Cutler, and Past President Glen Calvert. BOBBY STIVERS-APIKI was proud to host his nephews Kea Calpito and Chris Omerod for the gathering, and TREENA BREYFOGLE brought along her ex-husband and still great friend, Roy Breyfogle to enjoy the meeting. BARBARA GARCIA also had a guest, Kehaulani Hoewa'a, who'd actually found the club on facebook and contacted BARB about the meeting. Yay for social media!

<u>A Few Quick Announcements and Recognitions!</u>

MALCOLM
CHUN encouraged
members to save
Thursday June 22nd
for training for
Brewfest...Location will
be at Dodo Mortuary,



199 Wainaku Street, Hilo. 5:30-7PM training for beertenders..this is mandatory or you will

not be able to pour at the event. .

Also: June 24th is the Brewfest: 11:30-6PM Wainaku Executive Center. Volunteers are still needed so please go to : https://www.volunteersignup.org/473XL or you can email to: atatum@lexbrodiestire.com or chunmalc@twc.com.

The Rotary Club of Pahoa Sunset is holding their Annual Cinco de Mayo Festival on May 2nd at the Keaau Eagles Club (across from the Humane Center) 6:00PM to 8:30ish...cost: \$35.00 and includes 1 beer or wine or soft drink/Mexican dinner and live entertainment, and a great Silent Auction. Tickets are available at Pahoa Auto Parts or from club members or call 966-4072.

A special presentation award will be made to honor recently passed, President Alan Lakritz.

Team Lava Flow members, JIM CHENEY, BOB HANELY, ED HARA and TAMMY SILVA were recognized for their teamwork on the April 7th Lava Flow.

JEREMIAH LEONARD asked for some "muscle help" to

#1 dig holes at the Rotary Park to plant our "honoree trees"...digging will be late afternoon on Tuesday, May 9th, and

#2 help to pour/spread concrete for bases for special Rotary benches at the Rotary Park. Help is needed for Saturday AM, June 10th. please contact JEREMIAH at jere@sunconstructionhi.com if you are willing to help with this project. 3 Benches to be placed in Rotary Park...Memorial to Akira Watanabe, Bench to honor our "Golden Guys" and a bench celebrating The Rotary Club of Hilo.

Woo Hoo, great job Rotarians for the Matson Clean-up at our Rotary Park April 15th. A whole lot of clearing, chopping, chain-sawing and sweat went into the event, with GALEN ICHINOSE, TOM JIMENEZ, MALCOLM CHUN and CATHY GRAY (all very much newbie Rotarians) jumping in with lots of energy. As always with a Rotary Project, many

hands made quick work, and YES, this one gained our club foundation \$1,000 from Matson as a special bonus. Stop by the park and check it out, it looks great.

SUSAN MUNRO got the award for getting the most "dirty"**STEVE HANDY** supplied great sub-wiches, and everyone went home satisfied with a job well done!

CONNIE ICHINOSE, The Queen of Membership Mixers, took a few minutes to speak about the May 4th event, which will be held at LORRAINE SHIN'S home. It will be a tour of several homes that LORRAINE'S worked tirelessly to restore in the Puueo area. Cost will be \$15.00 for members and spouses. (includes heavy pupus and ono deserts...BYOB)I Potential new members will be no charge. Be sure to sign up either at the next meeting or on-line.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

HELENE TAJIRI had some happiness money for our foundations to celebrate her birthday, wedding and club anniversaries, and

BOB HANLEY (forever young) was cheered for his recent birthday too.

WALLY WONG also celebrated his birthday April 11th.

BIFF KENNEDY was recognized for his 4 years of membership.

TAMMY SILVA had some happy cash to just cause she was happy to be able to attend a meeting again, and

COREY KAWAMOTO had an EREY contribution, compliments of the social committee to be donated in JERRY WATANABE'S name.

And, onward to our featured speaker, we'll now



know where WALLY WAS!!! Before his presentation, WALLY WONG led the folks at the meeting in a Hawaiian HAKA. It was awesome to see everyone participating and learning a little bit more about the

Birthdays:

Nosaka, Johnalyn April 5 Kusunoki, Alan April 7 Aoki, Toshi April 8 Brown, Tom April 10 Wong, Wally April 11 O'Brien, Sally April 14 Johnson, Jenny April 15 Hanley, Bob April 16 Hanley, Joe April 26 Bicknell, Mary April 28 Prose, Marcia April 28 Dobbe, Alberta April 29

Club Anniversary:

Wallis, Sam April 2, 1976 (41) Shikuma, Craig April 3, 1992 (25) Kennedy, Biff April 12, 2013 (4) Porter, Gay April 12, 1991 (26) Carter, Gerard April 16, 1993 (24) Mates, Reese April 29, 2008 (9)

Announcements:

April 28 - Barbara Garcia Ke Ola Magazine May 5 - Saeko Hayashi Subaru Telescope May 11 (Thursday) 11:45 - 1:00 pm Kuhio Kalanianaole Park Recognizing: R. Fujimoto/ R. Oda/ J. Yagi May 12 - No Meeting

Rotary Club of Hilo Board of Directors 2016 – 2017:

- President Randy Hart
- Past President Wally Wong
- President Elect Steve Handy
- Vice President Mitch Dodo
- Secretary Treena Breyfogle
- Treasurer Corey Kawamoto
- Sergeant at Arms Dirk Yoshina
- Rotary Foundations Kerry Glass
- Membership Connie Ichinose
- Public Relations Marcia Prose
- International Service Stew Husse
- Community Service Reese Mates
- Vocational Service Cindy Boots
- Club Service Kui Costa
- New Generations Gail Takaki

Foundation Chairpersons

- Hilo Rotary Club Foundation Nina Decker
- The Rotary Foundation Kerry Glass
- Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation Mitchell Dodo

Hawaiian Culture we are surrounded by every day.

As many members were aware, WALLY was a crewmember on the Hokule'a this past December, January and February as it made its' way from the Atlantic to the Pacific via the Panama Canal. He shared some early history with the crowd on how the idea of the Hokule'a Voyages was created in 1974 to prove that the Polynesians purposely voyaged across the Pacific using celestial navigation, and did not just float around on rafts and bump into islands along the way. In 1974 a crew was selected and trained and Master Celestial Navigator Mau Pialug (known as Papa Mau) was recruited from Micronesia to teach navigators from Hawaii to carry on the traditions. The 1976 crew began a new chapter in Hawaiian history by sailing to Tahiti and back, and played a big part in the renaissance of the Hawaiian culture as we see it today in 2017. WALLY first became interested in this program when he was a junior in HS back in '76, but it wasn't until 1991 that he was able to make his first crossing on Hokule'a from Rorotonga back to Hawaii. Since those early days, he's had opportunities to sail again at least 4 or 5 times. He said, "each time he tries to learn more and become better schooled in the workings of each voyage. He told us through some very awesome, and exciting photos, about his experiences and adventures, both while at sea and on land. On this most recent trip, WALLY joined the Hokule'a crew in the Miami area and sailed around the Florida Keys with a route taking them from the Pacific Ocean, through the Panama Canal Locks system, into a fresh water lake filled with a variety of vessels of all sizes and shapes, and back out of the lake to the Pacific Ocean. This Voyage was identified as Leg 26, and the name of the Voyage is Malama Honua, which was also President Wally's 2015-2015 Rotary Theme, meaning "to care for the earth"

He shared personal notes as tidbits of the experience including sights they took in, inspiring sunrises, rainbows and skylines. Even some of the foods they ate, (lots of fresh fish) and sometimes craved, so got to fill up on when they'd reach a port to do restocking and sometimes repairs. It was as if we were there with him. This past voyage took the crew away from home over the Christmas and New Year holidays, and he related how they shared stories together and celebrated in their own

way, out there in the ocean. When they finally reached Colon Harbor, the crew was able to go on land for a few short days, explore and even found a friend, Yvonne Osorio who was had been an exchange student at Kamehameha in 1976!! They enjoyed some great meals and fellowship while they were ashore, and then onward to the next stage of getting through the various stages of the locks system. The Panama Canal is a 48 mile water way that connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Boats making their way through are lifted up a total of 85 feet to Gatun Lake, and then lowered back down to sea level. What an awesome experience, and our club was very lucky to get the opportunity to learn about it through WALLY'S presentation....The Worldwide Voyage started in 2013 and the Hokule'a is now in Tahiti, and will be sailing back to Hawaii sometime in mid-June. At all their stops around the world on the journey, the crew shared Pacific traditions and learned much by participating in cultural exchanges too. The voyage has been a means to engage all of island earth in practicing how to live sustainably, while sharing, learning, and creating global relationships around the world we live in.

Up-Coming Events:

April 28th: Member BARBARA GARCIA, speaking about Keo'la Magazine

May 4th: Puueo Membership Mixer-LORRAINE SHIN'S home

May 5th: Past Member, SAEKO HAYASHI-Subaru Telescope

May 11th: Rotary Park-Honoring our "3 Golden Guys" ..tree planting and lunch. Mayor Kim will present certificates to BOB FUJIMOTO, JIMMY YAGI, RUSS ODA for their 50+ years of service and dedication to our community and Rotary Club of Hilo. *sign up with Cindy Boots or Connie Ichinose

The 4 Way Test was led by a very HAPPY volunteer, NANCY CABRAL. She was proud that Day-Lum will be a Keg Sponsor for the Brewfest,, and shared a funny twist to end the meeting. She won't be able to be at the Brewfest, as she'll be on the mainland celebrating her father's 90th birthday, and also attending his wedding too!

Life is GOOD!!

