

# Rotary Club of Hilo



# Lava Flow



August 18, 2017

Chartered: December 1, 1920

Reporter: HRH

## Welcome!

Past-President (PP) **Randy Hart**, "playing president for the day," welcomed all at 12 noon.



He called on PP **Wally Wong** to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Barbara Garcia**, a greeter along with **Helen Hemmes**, had the honor of introducing visiting Rotarians **G. Bev Garrett**, President, and Rotary Club (RC) of Volcano, and **Keith Marrack**, member, Rotary Club of South Hilo.



Rotarians with guests included **Charlene Meyers (Chris & Mary Biltoft)**, **Wally Wong** (former Club member **Nina Decker** and baby **Colette**, along with **Romero Garcia**), **Wally Wong** and **Gail Takaki (Dawn Avigatero)**, and **Sally O'Brien (Skye Czember)**.



The **Spring District Assembly** is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 16, from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. with "must attendees" including the Foundation Chair, President-Elect (PE), and the Membership Chair and Committee. Others who should attend include members on the Boards of Directors (current and future), new members, and other interested Rotarians.

## Let's Celebrate!

PP **Randy** thanked **Cindy Boots** for serving as the scribe and **Mitch Dodo** as the photographer for last week's issue of The Lava Flow.

## Rotary Foundation

Chair **Malcom Chun** congratulated **Ed Hara** and presented **Paul Harris pin #6**. Congratulations, **Ed!**



**Tina Jimenez** was recognized in absentia for her birthday on August 13, **Mary** and **Albert Bicknell** for their anniversary on August 15 (23 years!), and **Cel Ruwethin** for his Club anniversary on August 12 (6 years!)

## Vocational Talk

by **Kathy Borer**, Social Worker IV. **Sally O'Brien** introduced "compassionate, caregiving, warm, loving and kind" **Kathy Borer**, who moved to Hilo two years ago with her husband **Joe**, an emergency room physician at Hilo Medical Center and husband of twenty-five years. **Kathy** has a B.N. from the University of Minnesota and a Masters of Social Work from Augsburg College in Minneapolis. She's worked as a nurse, as an Assistant Nursing Director, and Leader and Clinical Director of Professional Psychological Services. In Hilo, she has been a case manager for Easter Seals and is now at Child Welfare Services. **Kathy** then briefly shared that her desire to become a Rotarian was based on the hope that with Rotarians she could help increase the awareness of community leaders and business leaders to work on issues such as



violence in the home, mental health, drug addiction, and child welfare concerns. She noted the need for good quality foster homes and urged persons to contact her for more information.

## \$ Happy Dollars \$

**Mike Meyers** shared that he biked 300 miles last month, so he graciously donated \$30 to the Club. Mahalo, **Mike!**



**Nina Decker**, a former member of our Club, donated to \$20 to say, "I miss you all" and to introduce a fellow Rotarian from the RC of Oakland, **Romero Garcia**. He is **Nina's** neighbor and now the Director of the Laupahoehoe Public



Charter School. **Romero** said he had been visiting Hawaii Island for the past eleven years and is now blessed to live here and to work with others (such as **Wally Wong** and the Interact Club) to make "Laupahoehoe School great again!" (New to some of us was the fact that the RC of Oakland is the third oldest Rotary Club in the world!)

**Wally Wong** donated \$5 to thank the **Hilo Rotary Club Foundation** and **Tim Beatty** for the purchase of 100



backpacks, with a special thanks to the anonymous donor who gave two extra backpacks! Ideally Rotarians will be photographed wearing the backpacks—maybe next week with the District Governor—for publicity purposes.

At 12:20 p.m., the screen featured these words "And now for something completely different."

Today's Guest Speaker, our own member, **Chris Tamm**

**Chris** shared that his wife, **Barbara**, and he made a practice of closing their business for two weeks over



## Birthdays:

Corey Kawamoto August 1  
Misti Tyrin August 1  
Dylan Shropshire August 2  
Tina Jimenez August 13  
Jerry Watanabe August 28  
Galen Ichinose August 29

## Club Anniversary:

Donald Straney August 3, 2010 (7)  
Malcolm Chun August 5, 2016 (1)  
Jeremiah Leonard August 5, 2016 (1)  
Jen Tanouye August 5, 2016 (1)  
Anita Tatum August 5, 2016 (1)  
Kui Costa August 6, 2010 (7)  
Wally Wong August 6, 2010 (7)  
Cel Ruwethin August 12, 2011 (6)  
Marcia Prose August 29, 2010 (4)

## Wedding Anniversary:

Glenn & Anne Harris August 1 (19)  
Gail & Gordon Takaki August 2 (37)  
Jeremiah & Toni Leonard August 5 (1)  
Mary & Albert Bicknell August 15 (23)

## Announcements:

August 25 - District Governor Nalani Flinn  
September 1 - NO Meeting  
September 8 - Teen Challenge of Hawaii Island  
September 15 - Gina McGuire  
Mokupapa Discovery Center  
September 22 - RYLA  
September 29 - Lani Weigert  
Hospice of Hilo, Kupu Care  
October 6 - Jack Wong, CEO  
Kamehameha Schools  
October 13 - Susanne Baca  
Fire Ants Hawaii  
October 20 - Shannon Drumm  
Ohia Healing - A simple solution

## Rotary Club of Hilo Board of Directors 2017 - 2018:

- President – **Steve Handy, Jr.**
- Past President – **Randy Hart**
- President Elect – **Keith Okamoto**
- Vice President – **Mitch Dodo**
- Co-Secretary – **Treena Breyfogle**
- Co-Secretary – **Jan Tanouye**
- Treasurer – **Corey Kawamoto**
- Sergeant at Arms – **Shane Okimoto**
- Rotary Foundations – **Malcolm Chun**
- Membership – **Connie Ichinose**
- Public Relations – **Marcia Prose**
- International Service – **Stew Hussey**
- Community Service – **Wally Wong**
- Vocational Service – **Bobby Stivers Apiki**
- Club Service – **Kui Costa**
- New Generations – **Gail Takaki**

## Foundation Chairpersons:

- Hilo Rotary Club Foundation – **Nina Decker**
- The Rotary Foundation – **Malcolm Chun**
- Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation – **Mitchell Dodo**

Christmas, with support from their customers, to travel within six time zones of Hilo, at areas south of the Tropic of Cancer. Their children join them for a Christmas celebration, complete with local foods and traditional gifts. In 2016, they traveled to Borneo Island, the third largest island in the world (289,000 square miles), after Greenland and New Guinea. Borneo Island comprises three countries, Indonesia, Brunei, and Malaysia.

Why Borneo? Orangutan (endemic to Borneo and Sumatra), Proboscis Monkey (endemic to Borneo), Gibbon (endemic to South East Asia), Malayan Tiger (endemic to Malaysia), Bear Cats, Asian Elephant, Sun Bear, and Standard Chartered Bank.



**Chris** featured a photo of Standard Chartered Bank, Kota Kinabalu Branch, Sabah, Malaysia, and shared that when he was living in London, England, back in 1977 the application from this entity came in for project financing, and it was the first application with which he worked. Nearly 40 years later, he got to visit the site!

To see the “Why Borneo?” animals in the wild, he noted, might have taken months due to the jungle, so a zoo or game park was the place to go. A fun experience was watching orangutans raise their hands for a handout of bananas at 2 p.m. He inquired, “Where is **Dr. Wayne Atebara** when he is needed?” featuring a photo of an orangutan that clearly needed dental work. The juxtaposition of photos featuring Rodin’s “The Thinker” and an orangutan was superb, as was his Pop Quiz about the difference between and ape and a monkey. (**Judy Gibson** was the first to respond!)

Gibbons have no tails and are rare to see. “Size [of noses] matters” for the mating of the Proboscis Monkey, and the Asian elephant is very different in size and appearance (back and tusks) plus much more vocal than African elephants. Sun Bears, the smallest of all bears, have no need to hibernate since they live in a tropical jungle, the bear cat has unusual features, and the Malaysian tiger is smaller than the Indian tiger. Other animals featured in Chris’ photos were the otter (“rather cute”) and the monitor lizard.

Borneo is hot, even during the winter months, so Chris noted it was a relief to wear a jacket at the 6,000 foot level of Mt. Kinabalu (13,000 feet high). Sunsets were magnificent, but the air quality--due to the burning of forests for agricultural space--was “dreadful” and “nasty.” A peculiar experience was walking inside an upside-down house.

The food, he noted, was wonderful, with little “hole in the wall” restaurants featuring



inexpensive dishes with spices and herbs—yet at the airport the locals seem drawn to fast food restaurants. Fun slides featured **Barbara** and family in a 3d museum, commentaries on toilet habits for both males and females, the twin towers in Kuala Lumpur that were joined by a bridge at the 58th



floor (\$20 for a ten-minute walk!), the traffic (cars in Borneo compared to motorcycles in Saigon), required dress for visiting the National Mosque Malaysia, and seeing the site for his New Year’s Eve celebration in Kuala Lumpur.

The program ended all too soon. TerreMakaSei (thank you) is followed by SamaSame (You’re Welcome!). TerreMakaSei, **Chris!**

## In Closing.

**Connie Ichinose** led us in the **Four-Way Test** of the things we Think, Say or Do, with thanks to all for attending!

Next week, August 25, the Board will meet on Friday at 10 a.m. with **Nalani Flinn**, District Governor, who will be the speaker at our meeting.

On Sept. 8, the program will feature Team Challenge of Hawaii.

