

Lava Flow for 01/19/18

by Double H

Here it is, Friday already, and everyone of importance is gathering for the 3rd meeting of the year of the Rotary Club of Hilo at the infamous Hilo Hawaiian Hotel..

GREETERS

Greeting everyone with smiles and a handshake were **Pres. Elect Keith Okamoto** and **Jen Tanouye**. Also sort of lurking around the entrance welcoming attendees were **Pres Po-Boy, Jr.** himself and compadre **Corey Kawamoto**. Nice having these two dignitaries glad-handing everyone as they came in.

OFFICIAL START OF THE MEETING

Pres. Po-Boy, Jr. rang the opening bell right on time at 12:05pm. To welcome home 2 members (**Past President Kerry Glass** and **Susan Munro**) who have been away for quite a while, our illustrious Pres. called on **Kerry** to lead us in the Pledge to our Flag.

After last Saturday morning's fake brush with disaster, **Pres. Po-Boy, Jr.** has developed a new outlook on life, taking things day by day and not really worrying about things. He told us a story of his activities during that morning and how life just sort of went on even though impending doom was forthcoming.

But now onto more mundane things:

VISITORS AND GUESTS

Greeter **Jen** was called upon to introduce our visitors and guests.

The Visiting Rotarian from another Club today was Tony Misiaszek (thank heavens he printed his name clearly on the sign-up sheet), of the Rotary Club of South Hilo, who brought his son Cole as his guest.

Michael Day (a previous member of this Club) was the guest of **Nancy Cabral**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Kaivao Farms Wauke garden cleanup and preparations scheduled for tomorrow (01/20), headed up by **Past President Wally Wong**, is still looking for

additional volunteers and helpers. Starting time is 8:00am so don't forget to be there.

Gail Takaki talked about the Rotary Peace Project, a function with which we are coordinating with the Rotary Club of South Hilo, to develop initiatives to reduce homelessness, improve education and offer help in other areas – to explore the willingness and capacity to develop an action plan for all the East Hawaii Clubs to take on these projects. With this year's Rotary theme of “Rotary Serving Humanity” this project fits right in. So she and Charlene Iboshi (of the Rotary Club of South Hilo) are looking for those to help doing this and to come up with ideas that make sense in taking care of these matters.

Marcia Prose wants everyone to take selfies next week displaying their Rotary Pin or Rotary emblems to be a make-up for the meeting we are not having next Friday (Feb. 2nd) because of the special District Dinner being held that evening. So no meeting next week but DO send her your selfies (at mmprose@hawaiiantel.net).

Judy Gibson is looking for helpers and sponsors the Interact weekly meetings, on Tuesdays at noon at Waiakea High School, in the library. This weekly meeting doesn't take long and the students are glad to see us at the meetings. So please sign up to go once or twice this year. **Judy** has the sign-up sheet with the dates available so please see or contact her.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Plenty of Birthdays and Club Anniversaries to celebrate this week:

Birthdays: **Bobby Stivers-Apiki** and **Gail Takaki** on the 17th. **Past Presidents Newton Chu** and **Mitch Dodo** today, the 19th. **Mitch** actually got up and acknowledged just how old he is (48) and gave \$100 to the Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation.

Club Anniversaries: **Judy Gibson** on the 13th – 12 years, **Bob Hanley** on the 14th – 7 years, **Past President Stew Hussey** on the 15th – 25 years, and **Genie Phillips** on the 20th – 1 full year (already!)

HAPPY DOLLARS

Past President Kerry was \$10.00 happy to be back after 6 weeks in Coronado, where the weather was great. He also happened to meet a man who knew **Past President Stew** when both were Navy Seals. This really is a small world.

Gail was happy just to have another birthday, donating \$65.00 to our Club's general fund (is that a clue to some vital info about her birthday?).

Mike Meyer was \$4.00 happy about being on a bike ride last Saturday and not really knowing about the supposed problem going on.

Nancy was happy about the upcoming 26th Pana'ewa Stampede

Past President Jim Cheney was \$10.00 happy for the help he got from **Mike Meyer** earlier in the week when his car battery died in the middle of a parking lot downtown. Without **Mike**, he still might be stranded there.

Past President Jim Kennedy was \$20.00 happy that he did not go overboard last Saturday about the news of our impending doom. He figured, "what the heck?" and was rewarded for his lack of action.

FOUNDATION NEWS

Assistant District Governor and **Past President Randy Hart** called up **Past President Kerry** to thank him for his work last year as Chairman of the Rotary Foundation Committee for our Club. Our Club received a banner recognizing our 100% EREY contribution and for our total contributions to the Rotary Foundation in general: in the top 4% of all Rotary International's 35,000 Clubs, in the top 14% for EREY contributions and in the top 12% for per capita giving. We are a great, generous Club and received this citation for our giving and being a well-rounded Club.

GUEST SPEAKER

Today's speaker was our own **Nancy Cabral** who managed to relate much of her personal feelings about life and starting in her business (and then, of course, talking about the Pana'ewa Stampede Rodeo and how it came to be).

Her early life was like how many kids have, with good family ethics and a decent education. Unfortunately this doesn't always seem to help when selecting a mate resulting in her first marriage having real problems. Without delving into too much detail, she related that domestic abuse became a real concern and that domestic abuse IS A CRIME.

She wound up living in cars and women's shelters, basically safe houses where no one knows where you are or can get after you. That's one of the reasons she likes our Rotary Club so much because we

sponsor such places and do so much including all the little things that mean so much to people. She now goes out of her way to help those who helped her in her early young years. These organizations help their "cliental" make better choices.

Being homeless sort of got her going into property management. Having the determination and strength to work hard and do well, she, over the years, has attained ownership in about 40 residences now, which obviously most are rented out.

By working with and for the community, and using Rotary's ideals, she has developed her company into the force it is today. She has used advice from fellow Rotarians throughout the years and thanks us all for our help to her. This is one of the many reasons she gives money and help to the many organizations we try to help.

She has maintained membership in our Club for over 30 years and, in sort of a joking manner but now is coming into play, agreed to a Past President a long time ago to become our Club President in our 100th year, never thinking that this day would really come. But lo and behold, our 100th anniversary is right around the corners and we are holding her to her promise. But she is looking forward to it and wants to make our 100th year be memorable in the annals of Rotary.

But in the mean time, her passion is the Rodeo and the fun she has with it. The Pana'ewa is in its 26th year and has a lot of events that many mainland rodeos don't have because of our Hawaiian background. She talked about cattle, the industry growth (and problems because of it) and the ideas that royalty and government used to make it work.

Waikoloa and west Hawaii (before the lava flows) used to be forested in Sandalwood Trees. The Monarchy discovered they were valuable and sold them to provide the finances they needed to maintain the kingdom. Once the trees were gone, Parker Ranch was started to grow cattle and provide meat, but no one really knew how to catch or corral the cows. Thus the Hawaiian Paniolo were developed (and were probably the first American cowboys before the cattle ranches started on the mainland). Taming cows was a challenge and many unique techniques were invented, some of which are now events at the rodeos here.

Because Parker Ranch is now down to just (believe it or not) 2 or 3 cowboys, down from the multi hundreds back in the old days, many paniolo skills may

be lost. Thus the making of this rodeo into a cultural event.

Rodeos on the mainland are a big business now with scads and scads of money available. Las Vegas backs one of the biggest events in the country and rodeo is active there. TV has also gotten into the act and rodeo participants can earn a good living (if they can stay healthy of course).

And with that, **Nancy** provided a short video of the happenings and highlights of our yearly event (which takes place in February this year on the 18th, 19th and 20th).

Pres. Po-Boy, Jr. thanked her for this informative and enjoyable talk and called upon Gail Takaki to lead us in the recitation of the 4-Way Test of the things we think, say and do.

And remember, no Friday meeting next week so send in your selfies to **Marcia** (which will qualify as a meeting attendance) so she can put together of a display of what we all look like.

Pau