

# Rotary Club of Hilo



# LAVA FLOW



July 7, 2017

Chartered: December 1, 1920

Reporter: Double H

Well here it is, the 1st official meeting of the new Rotary Year, which happens to start on July 1 every year, in the midst of our 97th year of existence and with our 98th Rotary President. Our new President is the guy who normally sat at the back table, very quiet and unassuming, who many of us just never noticed because he never raised a stink or commented on many of the weekly events occurring at the Club. He attends every meeting diligently and makes his contributions as required. So, without further ado, we now have our new hero (pause) (you do get it don't you – hero?) **Steve Handy, Jr.** Of course since he sells sandwiches for a living he cannot be too quiet and shy so he will just be our **Po-boy** President who we are glad to have.

## GREETERS

Official greeters for this 1st momentous meeting were old timer **Jim Cheney** and newbie (and President-Elect – how he ever got corralled into accepting to do that next year since he is just a new-guy is mysterious) **Keith Okamoto**. They greeted everyone coming in with enthusiasm and smiles, welcoming all and passing out everyone's badges as they came in. Exceptions to this were **Corey Kawamoto** and **Tim Beatty** who managed to leave their's on the greeter's table for the whole meeting. Guess they wanted to attend the meeting anonymously (and they didn't get fined for not wearing them). Even **Pres. Po-Boy, Jr.** managed to get his just before going up front to start the meeting.

## START OF THE MEETING

At exactly 12:00 noon, that's what he did. With the traditional gonging of the bell and everyone getting up, **Pres. Po-Boy, Jr.** asked **Corey** (but how he knew who this man was without his badge is a real question) to lead us in the Pledge to the Flag, which he did so with grace and aplomb.

## VISITORS AND GUESTS

**Keith** had the honor of introducing all our visitors and guests:



No local Rotarians from other Clubs statewide but from Manhattan Beach, CA was **Don Jung**, who was encouraged to say a little about his Club and what they do.

**Suk Young**, guest of **Glenn Harris**  
**Kathy Borer** and **Laycie Tobosa**, guests of **Sally O'Brien** (who was welcomed back by everyone)  
**Nyra Dee**, **Lei Cosales**, **Art Kimura**, **Rene Kimura**, **Ara Uhr**, **Caleb Rogers**, **Corbin Warmbier** and **Kenny Heikes**, all guests of **Malcolm Chun** (some of whom are our guest speakers).

## PAUL HARRIS PRESENTATIONS

**Kerry Glass** was called up right away to "pass the torch" of Rotary Foundation Chairperson over to **Malcolm** and to present him his **1st Paul Harris Fellowship**. Way to go **Malcolm!** **Sally** also was recognized for attaining a multiple pin award. Good for her.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Malcolm** (again!) started things off by asking for volunteers to help in tree planting at our Rotary Park in Keaukaha.

**Kathleen McGilvray** passed around a sign-up sheet for anyone interested in pulling weeds up near the visitor center off Saddle Road on 07/27/17. This will be at the approximately 6,000 foot level from 8:00am – 3:30pm with transportation and lunch provided. Actually sounds like a relatively good deal without too much hard work so lets get on the bandwagon for this.

**Judy Gibson** is looking for helpers and advisors for this year's **Waiakea High School Interact Club**. School starts on 08/15 and since this club is our sponsored organization we need to keep being involved. And the kids do appreciate and look forward to meeting us. So please help her out and sign up.

**Connie Ichinose** announced the start for this year of our successful Membership recruitment get-togethers, the 1st of which will be here at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel's Waioli Lounge on 07/25. Be there or be square.

**Charlene Meyers** made a pitch about a **Polio-Plus** campaign she would like our Club to get involved with for this year. Our entire district contributed about **\$161,000** last year (an amazing amount) and to reach this total (or more) again, the Clubs are going to have help from outsiders and friends. So she wants to set up a biking type of event with custom made tee-shirts (showing sponsors). She needs our creative ideas that will make this work and will listen to any suggestion, so contact her to help out.



## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

07/03 Birthday for **Lisa Rantz**  
07/01 Wedding Anniversary for **Ed** and **Portia Hara**  
07/03 Club Anniversary for **Charlene Meyers**

## HAPPY DOLLARS

**Judy Gibson** is amazed that everyone (and that's each and everyone of us, folks) is caught up on their Rotary attendance. This is the 1st time this has happened in her years of attendance chairperson.

**Glenn Harris**, who will be moving to the M/L soon, is grateful to all the people in our Club for their time and efforts in making his programs such a success they are. Thank you all.

**Marcia Prose** commented on the July Palace Theater programs and has the monthly newsletter for our distribution.



**Susan Munro** & **Kerry Glass** had a great time Alaska and are glad to be back.



**Charlene** is happy that the bike project she wants to plan is not the 60 mile route that **Mike Meyer** does. Difficult to get participants if it was.

**Eric** for being a "Special Assignment" member of this Club, with his name being in a footnote at the bottom of our roster. He also likes our Club over many of the Clubs he's been to and belonged to. **\$100.00**

**Eric Anderson** went to Baltimore for a church convention and is also glad to be back.



**Cindy Boots** spent about 3-4 weeks in Wisconsin mainly to attend her 50th High School class reunion. She didn't say how everyone looked, besides older of course.

**Beverly Heikes** was happy about something involving being a Rotoact Student (this reporter unfortunately wasn't able to catch what she was saying)



**Genie Phillips** was ecstatic about selling her 1st listing as a real estate agent. The property is in escrow and all looks good for a completion of sale.

**Jen Tanouye** for not going someplace (you have to remember, the room was crowded and the acoustics in it are terrible so this reporter again missed all her comments).



## Birthdays:

Lisa Rantz July 3  
Chris McNichols July 16  
Jim Kennedy July 17  
Gene Tao July 20  
Eric Anderson July 23  
Cowboy Kaneshiro July 24  
Genie Phillips July 28  
Mitch Roth July 28  
Treena Breyfogle July 30  
Susan Munro July 30

## Club Anniversary:

Charlene Meyers July 3, 2003 (14)  
Bruce Blankenfeld July 10, 2015 (2)  
Alberta Dobbe July 11, 2008 (9)  
Connie Ichinose July 12, 2013 (4)  
Lorraine Shin July 17, 2009 (8)  
Mitch Roth July 19, 2013 (4)  
Misti Tyrin July 23, 2010 (7)  
Jim Kennedy July 24, 1998 (19)  
Lisa Rantz July 26, 2013 (4)  
Sally O'Brien July 27, 2012 (5)

## Wedding Anniversary:

Eddie & Portia Hara July 1 (39)  
Stew & Alessandra Hussey July 12 (31)  
Randy & Lydia Hara July 17 (24)  
Tom & Delia Brown July 29 (36)

## Announcements:

July 14 - Chris Ridley, Alzheimer's Assoc.  
July 21 - Hilo Bike Hub  
Joyride with Olivia

## 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 Silvers-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**

And finally, the Robotics team contributed **\$1.00** each, happy to be here and being able to speak to such a find group.

## GUEST SPEAKER

**Malcolm** was called up to introduce the Hilo Viking Robotics Team to show and tell what they do.

Their president, **Ara Uhr**, and the 3 attending participants (names on the visitor list above) gave a presentation of their activities here and statewide. Overall the Robotics team had 32 members last year and were required to put together a robot that could do something with balls (catch and toss and whatever else they could get it to do).

Well, they did this by working with the community, gathering ideas and frameworks, and generating the funds they need to compete with other schools at various official competitions.

In 2016/2017 they entered 4 competitions statewide and did very well in all of them, even getting up to the finals before being eliminated. Basically they were being judged on Robot design and use, with functionality being a major criteria.

Showing plenty of photos as to what they do and how they compete, they mentioned that science and technology are vital in doing what they hope to accomplish. Usually a project robot takes about 6 weeks to build, then they have 3 days of competitions to show the skills of their creation.

This team is not just for seniors classmen because they need the younger classes go get in tune of what they do and used to competing. If a member shows skill and intelligence, scholarships can be gotten as a result of their efforts. Not a bad deal. They try and get the community involved to know what they are doing, often by setting up demo events (more than 20 last year) which means a lot of hours working and doing activities. Because of this they also wind up having workshops and do a lot of mentoring with young kids.

However it costs money to do all of this and to attend the competitions, about **\$41,000** last year. This involves tools, materials, travel, food, etc. One of their major money raisers are robot camps, mainly their CAMP EURIKA.

This is a 1 week camp for kids ages 7-12, to introduce them to working with equipment and developing an acquaintance with engineering and robotics. They run about 5 camps yearly with about 30 attendees per camp. Naturally there is a charge for each student but some kids do get scholarships, based on need and ability. These camps are really popular (1 student has been to 17 of them – WOW!) and generate about **\$32,300** for the team. This helps make a big dent in the expenses.

Their goals for 2018 include doing well in competitions, getting new team members, going to the mainland for events, get 5 grants to help with the expenses, get 10 sponsors from the community and grow intellectually.

Now this team is from Hilo High and their main objective is to build a base so they can go to the mainland (expensive as all get out, as we all know).

A short question and answer session followed after which **Pres. Po-boy, Jr.** presented the advisors with 2 of our Rotary mugs and thanked them for coming. These kids are smart, creative and industrious and offer hope for us in the future.

One of the goals this year for **Pres. Po-boy, Jr.** is to have the meeting finish on time and today managed to do that, just a few minutes early. Good goal for him.

And to wrap up today's meeting, **Tim Beatty** was called upon to lead us in the recitation of the **4-way test**.

See you all next week (and if everybody comes again, along with those who did not come to today's meeting, its going to be very crowded as today had an overflow attendance for this little room).

Pau



Photographer: **Marcia Prose**