

Rotary Club of Hilo



LAVA FLOW



June 28, 2017

Chartered: December 1, 1920

Reporter: Cindy

ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

As we checked-in with Attendance Secretary **Judy Gibson** for the Installation Ceremony at the Hawaii Naniloa Hotel, we donned our Rotary pins with the new theme, enjoyed the music by Bradda Walter, appreciated Secretary **Treena's** PowerPoint of the year in review, and mingled with Rotarians and special guests.

You do need to see the PowerPoint of *"The Funniest Club in East Hawaii"* with photos of **President Randy** with **Lydia Hart**, the three **"Golden Rotarians"** (**Bobby Fujimoto**, **Jimmy Yagi**, and **Russ Oda**), the various community service projects and the membership socials, the photos of **Cindy Boots** ("It was a busy year!"), photos of **Wally Wong** and the Hokulea, text for "Hilo hekka" and much, much more. Mahalo plenty, **Treena**, for keeping us entertained, along with conversations and trips to the bar, until the microphone finally started working with **Tom Brown** welcoming us all with opening remarks and introductions.

Special guests included, incoming District Governor (DG) **Nalani Flinn**, **Brenda Ho** (and husband **Clyde**) from the Rotary Club of South Hilo, **George Beverly**

"Bev" Garret from the Rotary Club of Volcano, **Richard Cunningham** (and wife **Michelle Jodoi**) from the Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation East Hawaii District, **Steve** and **Emma Handy**, **Shari Handy**, **McKenize Handy** and **Cole De Silva**.

Longtime Rotarians can appreciate the subtlety of **Tom Brown's** humor. So, no, it was not **Corey Kawamoto** who gave the invocation but incoming Sergeant-at-Arms, **Shane Okimoto**. Per **Tom Brown**, **Steve Handy, Sr.**, was not invited to share "great stories" about his son **Steve Handy, Jr.**

The accolades for officers and directors from President (nearly Past President) **Randy Hart** were truly "awesome," with a small token of appreciation announced, with someone asking, "What about **Connie**?" "I've got **Connie** covered." Incoming DG **Nalani Flinn** had the pleasure of handing out the Rotary planners, with **President Randy** then recognizing Club awards from the D5000 conference: 1st runner up for Youth Service Large Club (**Gail Takaki**), 1st runner-up for Community Service Large Club (**Wally Wong**), and 1st place for Membership both for Large Clubs and for the State of Hawaii. Mahalo, **Connie**, and new members! Yes,

the Club netted twenty-one new members!

Dirk Yoshina, Sergeant-at-Arms, won the Quiet Rotarian of the Year award ("except when he's singing"), with **Keith Okamoto**, incoming president-elect, getting the Spirit Award. (Was it only slightly earlier that **Tom Brown** quipped, "one more hour!"/?)

Also recognized were the Service Committee chairs and the Foundation chairs. The Club won the District Governor citation (based on various factors including fun, membership, and Foundation support). Mahalo plenty for the Year in Review!

Incoming DG **Flinn** then had the honor of announcing that **Connie Ichinose** will be on her support team for Membership and that soon to be past president **Randy Hart** will be Assistant District Governor (ADG), with thanks to the 2016-2017 ADG **Alan Kusunoki**.

Installation of **Steve Handy, Jr.**, as President started with key words, "Bradda, come on!" Incoming President **Steve** invited all directors to stand as he took the oath of office, noting that the year will be a team effort. The standing ovation for **President Steve Handy, Jr.**, followed, with the new officers and directors subsequently inducted.

Birthdays:

Chuck Porter June 4
Judy Gibson June 6
Kathleen McGilvray June 7
Nina Decker June 9
Charlene Meyers June 10
Jeremiah Leonard June 11
Dirk Yoshina June 14
Jen Tanouye June 19
Biff Kennedy June 21
Lorraine Inouye June 22
Glenn Harris June 26
Ron Dolan June 4
Russ Oda June 30

Club Anniversary:

Patty Terada June 3, 2016 (1)
Mitchell Dodo June 4, 1999 (18)
Johnalyn Nosaka June 5, 2015 (2)
Pete Muller June 20, 2016 (1)

Wedding Anniversary:

Stan & Nancy Fortuna June 2 (6)
Jimmy & Jeanne Yagi June 7 (36)
Ketura & Duke Waiki June 12 (5)
Cel & Shoshanna Ruwethin June 14 (11)
Cindy & John Boots June 21 (31)
Bob & Alice Fujimoto June 23 (65)

Announcements:

July 7 - Malcolm Chun
Robotics Team - Hilo
July 14 - Chris Ridley, Alzheimer's Assoc.
July 21 - Hilo Bike Hub
Joyride with Olivia

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 – **Treana Breyfogle**
- Treasurer – **Corey Kawamoto**
- Sergeant at Arms – **Dirk Yoshina**
- Rotary Foundations – **Kerry Glass**
- Membership – **Connie Ichinose**
- Public Relations – **Marcia Prose**
- International Service – **Stew Hussey**
- 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**

President Steve's message included thanks to the ADGs, **Alan Kusunoki**, stepping down, and to **Randy Hart**, incoming ADG. We learned that the incoming DG, **Nalani Flinn**, is the first person of Hawaiian ancestry to become DG in D5000, that **Russ Oda** would be called on later in the meeting, that Rotary truly does make a difference in lives both locally and globally, and like the 1.2+ million Rotarians worldwide, **President Steve** wants "world peace." He also has high hopes that this year might be the year that polio is eradicated. **Steve's** speech writers were **Chuck Porter** and **Stew Hussey** (love that humor!). New **President Steve** remarked that the most recent trip to Fiji (this has been an ongoing project for our club for 13 years now) was a success due to Rotarians from Fiji sharing the real needs during "tea time" in Fiji, not for school supplies but for computers and ovens. Hearts of our Club's Rotarians in Fiji melted when the students said, "We want you [Rotarians] in the picture too!" Yes, generous donations from Rotarians, especially **Corey Kawamoto** and **Cowboy Kaneshiro**, have made a difference.

Then it was on to sharing about the new service project that has been identified for the Club – the South Pacific Business Development, a microloan program that has helped indigent women who had nothing to get started in business, with repayment of small business loans

at a 99% repayment rate.

The "true believer in team, with no 'I' in team" then thanked **Tom Brown**, master of ceremonies, who will be rejoining the Rotary Club of Hilo (making good on a promise that when **Steve** became president he would rejoin). **President Steve** thanked **Randy Hart** for being an awesome mentor and then called on **Russ Oda**, who explained that the tradition of being called on first comes with a price, but also with humor. Thanks for the donation of **\$100** to the **Wada Foundation!**

Cowboy Kaneshiro led us in the **4-Way pledge** of the things we think, say or do, and we all chimed in for the Fifth: "Have fun!" (In closing, we do want to mention that the food was fabulous!)

