

Rotary Club of Hilo



Lava Flow



September 29, 2016

Chartered: December 1, 1920

Reporter: Double H

OK, Gang, what time is it? All together now, *"Its Chicken Hekka Time!!"*

And gathering together on this gorgeous Thursday evening at the infamous AJA Hall, right across from the Hilo Muni Golf Course and literally and actually right next to **Tim Beatty's** house on Haihai street, we came to party and socialize at our 30th (Wow, can you believe it – 30 of these things already, and surely **Russ Oda** has been to all of them) Chicken Hekka gayla.



But with the starting time for the social hour being at 5:30pm, it was a real eye-blinding experience driving uphill on Haihai street looking directly up into the setting sun. Sun shades and sun glasses didn't help in the least so one had to be real careful going up the street (couldn't see a bloody thing). **Corey Kawamoto** promised that next year, if we are here again, to do what he can to make it more overcast and safer for us. Of course we might be back at the park again next year so then he doesn't have to worry about making good on his promise.

Being in this different venue was actually a nice change. The parking lot was really big and, obviously, right next to the building. The adjacent lanai made socializing and smoozing easy. The neighbors wouldn't complain about the noise (those mainly being the golf course and **Tim's** house). And all the beer (if that what you want to call the flavored water that Bud Light and Heinenken Light provides), wine, sodas and snack food were readily available.

Judy Gibson and **Kui Costa** did their fine jobs collecting money and taking names from all the attendees, which actually included **Nancy Cabral** and, in the very family way, **Nina Decker** (who naturally restricted her liquid intake to water or soda).



People sort of started sneaking into the main hall room after about 6:10pm (rain started falling and with the breeze, some people might have gotten a little damp).

At 6:15pm the caterers brought our specialized food requirements (cannot believe there are actual chicken hekka menu's out there on a caterer's offering listing) whom placed the appropriate portions on the tables accordingly. And inside, **Pres., Ret Col. Randy Hart** had a slide show going on the wall depicting a lot of things our Club has done and the various people involved in those activities. And, lo and behold, someone remembered to bring a flag as there was a slightly-larger than a miniature on the table up front. Seating was catch as catch can with no reservations required.



On the dinner tables were seemingly new gas grills to prepare the meals along with all the paper plates and cups, along with napkins, spoons and forks. Chopsticks were distributed after numerous requests were made for them.

The acoustics in the room made it very noisy with everyone talking and socializing so it was hard trying to listen to **Pres. Ret. Col. Randy**. Once he got everyone to sort of quiet down, he wound up leading us in

the Pledge to the Flag. After this, in getting things going, he made mention of the many guests in attendance and was glad to see them.

He called up **Lisa Rantz** to make an announcement about a clean-up project on Saturday (too late to go to now if you are just reading about it here).

Connie Ichinose went up to try and collect 8 volunteers for a game she was planning later. A nice group agreed to play at something they had not a clue of.

Helen Hemmes provided a few words of prayer and inspiration as we were getting ready to start cooking. **Russ** led us in cooking instructions (for those few of us who have never done this before) but, again, was difficult to hear because of the noise (the debicle level was really high and hard on the ears).

Cooking and mixing all the ingredients was fun and the end result actually tasted pretty good. Of course we'll never make a living as suis chef but we did ok for ourselves.

At around 7:30m people were starting to feel good and comfortable again and the smoozing restarted. **Connie's** game required 2 teams of 4 people to carry a full water bottle across the room between their legs and empty it into a bucket, all without using their hands. This was really fun to watch. Poor **Alan Kusunoki** finished last and his team ended up runners up. The winners each got a pack of toilet tissue and loser a box of chicken broth (you had to see this game to see how the prizes actually applied).

Birthdays:

Robert Fox September 5
Craig Shikuma September 9
Cel Ruwethin September 10
Cindy Boots September 14
Tim Beatty September 22
Sam Wallis September 22

Club Anniversary:

Joe Hanley September 4, 1987 (29)
James Yagi September 17, 1965 (51)
Ian Birnie September 20, 1985 (31)
Newton Chu September 22, 1995 (21)
Jerry Watanabe September 22, 1989 (27)
Tim Beatty September 27, 2002 (14)
Corey Kawamoto September 27, 2002 (14)

Wedding Anniversary:

Tim & Kanoa Beatty September 2 (15)
Helen & Don Hemmes September 2 (49)
Rand & Joann Mundo September 6 (13)
Misti & James Tyrin September 8 (9)
Alan & Zohra Kusunoki September 20 (44)

Announcements:

Oct. 7 - No Meeting
Oct. 8 - District Seminar
Oct. 12 - Board Meeting
Oct. 14 - Rotary Project News
Oct. 21 - Envision Mauna Kea
Susan Maddox
Oct. 28 - Vocational Day, Sign up to visit host
Rotarian's place of business

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 – **Lisa Rantz**
- The Rotary Foundation – **Kerry Glass**
- Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation – **Mitchell Dodo**

Then **Pres. Ret. Col. Randy** had a bunch of us go up to do the chicken dance (usually only seen at weddings) and this was enjoyable to do and fun to watch. Some of us are fairly talented at this, or at least have done it before.

By 7:45pm when the dessert (flat white cake) was distributed, people were already starting to filter out. And by 8:00pm it was just about a wrap. Stragglers and drinkers sort of hung in there for a while yet as the staff did clean up and straighten up the room.

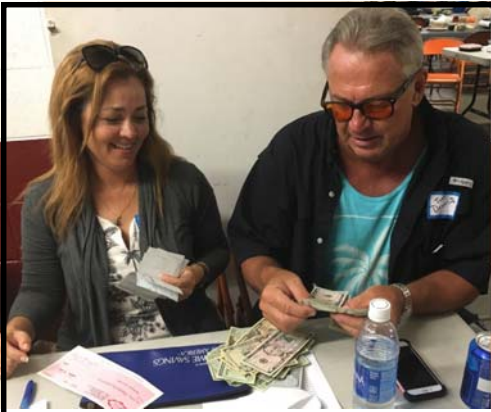
This reporter has been to a lot of these Chicken Hekka social gatherings but this has to rank up there as one of the best. It was enjoyable, the members could talk and socialize and it was just **FUN**. Yes, the room was loud but we sort of just ignored that and talked louder (making it worse, of course). Nice job by the social committee and **Pres. Ret. Col Randy**.

Remember, no meeting next Friday, the 7th so see you all again at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel on the 14th. Be safe.


Pau.



Photographer: **Kerry Glass**



JOHN F. GERM
2016-17 President
Rotary International



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