



# TIKI WA'HA ROTARY CLUB OF ALA MOANA



Lend a Hand

February 19, 2004

## MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

“WHAT DOES ROTARY MEAN TO ME?”

ROGER LERUD

By Sam Shenkus



I love warm weather, the ocean and meeting people, so being a Rotarian in Hawaii is a dream come true for a fellow from South Dakota. Mobridge is a small town of 5,000 that has the very active Rotary Club of Mobridge, so I have happy childhood memories of Rotary. When I arrived at the University of South Dakota in 1969, my goal was to follow my idols Tom Brokaw and Paul Harvey into a journalism career. However, one of my Dad's good friends happened to be the Vice President of the University and in my junior year, he gave me a sales pitch on combining my journalism goals with a law degree. As an attorney with a love of academics, he successfully convinced me to combine law with journalism and I graduated in 1973 with a Bachelor of Science, pre-law major and a french minor. I then left for Grenoble, France for a Rotary International Exchange and lived with 13 families from the Rotary Club of Grenoble during my year. I then returned home, worked for 2 years to earn my law school tuition funds and entered Hamline University in Minneapolis. In 1979, I was ready for the world with my J.D. and became an Assistant Attorney General for the state of South Dakota. In 1981, I followed my dream to practice law in sunny warm weather and got a job with a small law firm in Honolulu. In 1982, I ventured out to start my own practice and met my wife to-be Joyce, who was starting her own CPA practice in my building. Bob Bucknell, a business associate for many years, invited me to a Rotary lunch in 1987 and I really enjoyed the friendliness of the Ala Moana members. Rotary to me is people, always learning something new and finding fellowship in international activities. During my 1992-1993 President's year, I happily introduced Happy Dollars to our club (a great idea from PETS in San Jose) and I happily installed our first woman President, Sam Shenkus. In 1990 my family enjoyed the fellowship of the Abiko Clubs's 30th Anniversary celebration and then in 1995, my family enjoyed all my "les amis" from Grenoble during a vacation to France. The international fellowship of Rotary is my passion, but the sharing of ideas and friendships with all my fellow Rotarians is a very important part of my life.

ALA MOANA HOTEL

- LUNCH -

THURSDAY NOON

## FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

26th

**Claude Thompson  
Rotaplast Mission**

## MARCH PROGRAMS

4th

**Skip Polson  
Heifer Int'l Project**

11th

**To be announced**

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**President of RI  
Jonathan B. Majiyagbe  
District 5000  
Gary Siracusa, DG  
Rotary Club of Ala Moana  
Officers and Director  
Rotary Year 2003-2004  
President Tony Wong  
Pres-Elect Milton Miyakawa  
Vice President Clayton Wong  
Past President Kristine Blancq  
Secretary Stephen Arita  
Treasurer Kevin McCrary  
Sargent at Arms MaryAnn Berry  
Club Svc. Glenn Tsumura  
International Svc. Bob Hayashi  
Community Svc. Glenn Tsumura  
Vocational Svc. Candice Naito  
Club Service Milton Miyakawa  
Fellowship Com. Bridgette Adams  
New Generations Clayton Wong  
Membership & PR Sam Shenkus  
Attendance Wally Young  
Fund Raising Dave Berry  
Fnds (Rotary & HRYF) Rich Courson  
Indoctrination Dick Bento  
Club Historian Ethel Ching**



**Sam Shenkus and Roger Lerud**

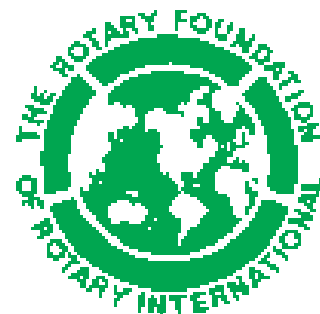
Seems only fitting that we make mention here of the dedication that both Sam Shenkus (our first lady president) and Roger Lerud have given to Rotary.



**Sam Shenkus**

**The Four-Way Test**  
*Of the things we Think, Say and Do*

1. Is it the Truth?
2. Is it Fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build Goodwill and Better Friendships?
4. Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?



Clayton Wong's notes from today's meeting are as follows:

1. **Rotary Minute:** Rich Courson shared a piece he recently read with the club members. He recently read that Jim Lacy, Rotary Foundation Trustee, was asked what was the most important challenge for the Rotary Foundation. He responded that if people are aware of what the Rotary Foundation does, they'd readily give to the foundation.
2. **Rotary Club of Metropolitan Honolulu Announcement:** The Metro club invited our members to the "Leap Year Hop" fundraiser on 28 February 2004, 6:00 – 10:00 PM. The fundraiser will be at the Queen's Court (the mostly vacant building across the street from Harbor Court), on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> floors. Tickets are \$40 each. Contact Gaylene Nako (847-0147) or Tom Anusewicz (479-4047) for more information and tickets.
3. **District Conference:** Roger Lerud announced that the 2004 District Conference will be held on 05 through 07 May 2004 on Maui.
4. **Big Band Bash (hereinafter, BBB):** Dave Berry announced that we are in the final two weeks prior to our fundraiser, and we need to make the final push to make this event a success. Silent auction items (along with the forms previously distributed) should be brought to the next club meeting. So sell those tickets and help out the effort!
5. **Attendance:** President Tony announced that attendance at weekly club meeting is mandatory. So show up!
6. **Guest Speakers:** Jack Legal and Benny Agbayani from the Hawaii Ballroom Dancing Association visited our club today. They told us that the association has 14 – 15 chapters (clubs) in Hawaii, and was established 46 years ago. They are a non-profit organization, and the oldest ballroom dancing organization in the State. They hold dances about twice per month, and the corresponding cost is \$6. They also have dance lessons – The course is about 11 weeks long, and one can re-take the course over and over.

Benny said that more women than men are interested in ballroom dancing, so at dances, they have their standing instructors dance with the single women. Benny added that he got into ballroom dancing at the urging of his wife. Not too surprising, she learned faster than he did, and he now looks toward her as his instructor!

The Hawaii Ballroom Dancing Association will be attending our Big Band Bash fundraiser, and will be furnishing exhibition couples during the event. They normally dance to recorded music, so having an event with live music is a special treat for them.

And yes, Benny is baseball player, Benny Agbayani's father. Benny said the his son is currently playing on a one-year contract in Japan.