



TIKI WA'HA ROTARY CLUB OF ALA MOANA



Lend a Hand

March 18, 2004

By Sam Shenkus

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE "WHAT DOES ROTARY MEAN TO ME?" SUE ANN LEE



I was born and raised in Honolulu, graduated from Roosevelt High School and then attended the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I graduated in 1972 with a Bachelors Degree in Education, but since no one was hiring except my husband to-be, I had to get really creative about my career. As a newly-wed I accompanied my girlfriend to take the Federal Service Entrance Exam and, on a whim, I also took the test. Since this was an exam for management type positions, when I found out I had passed, I applied for tons of jobs. I was finally accepted into an internship program at Fort Shafter in Personnel, then promoted several times and remained at Fort Shafter for nine years. In 1981 I left the security of the federal government for the securities industry when I became the Office Manager of my husband's financial planning firm. In 1986 I was a separated career woman, so I went back to the University of Hawaii to study in their Executive MBA program and major in my favorite hobby of photography. In 1988, with my shiny new MBA. I joined the family business, Chock's. I wanted to support my two brothers who had only experienced the family business while expanding the visibility of Chock's in the community. As a board member of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii, I met Ethel Ching and "that's all she wrote." I still remember really laughing a lot at Tony Wong's funny comments during the very first Rotary meeting I attended with Ethel. Another good friend of mine wanted me to join his Rotary Club of Honolulu, but when I told Ethel about Bill Gleason's offer, Ethel told me "No Way, you have to join the Rotary Club of Ala Moana!" It's always nice to be wanted and I have always felt that my fellow Rotarians really care about each other. During a very challenging period in my life, I still remember Ethel and so many of my fellow Rotarians providing a lot of strength and support. As a very busy real estate professional, our Rotary lunches are a welcome break in the madness of my day. As a Rotarian, I enjoy seeing the benefits that Rotary offers to young people and how we really can change lives with our commitment to service.

Footnote: Our HBA Interact Club has been collecting empty printer ink cartridges to raise money for this project. As was previously requested, please collect your empty ink cartridges and give them to a New Generations committee member. The HBA Interactors would greatly appreciate this!

ALA MOANA HOTEL

- LUNCH -

THURSDAY NOON

MARCH PROGRAMS

25th

Ed Kubo
US Attorney General

April
1st

Joshua Hvidding
Ambassadorial Scholar

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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



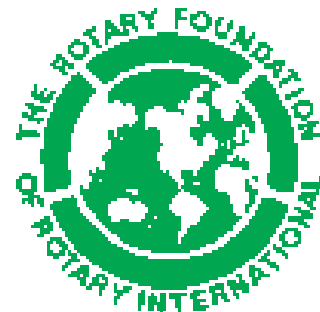
President Tony shares thoughts with President Elect Milton



Guest Speaker, Senator Norman Sakamoto and Ralph Mau

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?



Notes and Photos by Clayton Wong

1. **Market Report:** Berlyn Hinazumi reported that the market was so-so. It finished down 4.52 points from yesterday's close.
2. **District Assembly:** President-elect Milton and President Tony announced that this year's district assembly will be held on 10 April 2004 at Kapiolani Community College. All incoming club officers and committee chairs are urged to attend. The assembly will provide information to assist in kick-starting our programs for 2004-2005. New members are also urged to attend. The assembly will provide a good overview of the many facets of Rotary.
3. **Club Assembly:** President Tony announced that our next club assembly will be on 29 April 2004 at L'Uraku Tower.
4. **District Conference:** The conference will be on 7 – 9 May 2004. More information to follow.

5. **Guest Speaker:** State Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair of the Senate Committee on Education spoke to our club today about current education legislation and initiatives.



Senator Sakamoto said that there are essentially two major bills being considered this year. First, there is the Omnibus bill. This bill recognizes the current state of high school education and that there is a shortage of educators. The approach is to improve the educators we already have. This bill will assign teaching resources where they are most needed, instead of allocated by student headcount. It will also provide more money for textbooks,

establish a teacher certification program, and establish a principal training program. Guidelines for instructor accountability will also be established. The bill will also attempt to correct the DAGS – DOE conflict, since more dollars will be furnished to the principals in an attempt to streamline the process.

Senator Sakamoto said that the Governor favors local school boards and an accountability commission. This would create 7 Department of Educations. A special election on 01 June 2005 would be necessary to approve this revision. Senator Sakamoto said he was not a proponent of referendum – He fears that if this was established in Hawaii, we may become like California expending major dollars supporting both sides of a referendum. He prefers empowering the elected officials to study the issues and make good judgment for the community at-large.

On a related but not legislative note, Senator Sakamoto mentioned a jointventure between the military and the public schools to improve education. This approach provides help instead of just criticism. There is a similar push to establish a private business partnership with the 42 school complexes to do the same. His philosophy is that “the community we live in is the community we need to support.” He thought it would be wonderful if our club could assist McKinley Complex in this manner through Interact.