



# TIKI WA'HA ROTARY CLUB OF ALA MOANA



Lend a Hand

May 29, 2004

## MEMBERSHIP MINUTE "WHAT DOES ROTARY MEAN TO ME?" VICTOR CORPUZ

By Sam Shenkus



I was born in the Philippines and I remember moving to Hawaii with my family when I was five years old. I attended Hale'iwa Elementary School and graduated from Waiialua High School in 1984. I was always interested in how things worked, always taking things apart and curious about engineering. When I started my studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa after graduation, I decided to major in engineering. However, after struggling with the very complex required math courses, I changed my major to economics in my sophomore year. Since high school, I had worked in part-time jobs and in my sophomore year, I got a job with Duty Free. My first year was at the Waikiki store and then I transferred to the Duty Free airport warehouse. This exposure to a very dynamic visitor retailer balanced my economics studies with real world experiences, and peaked my interest in people. I minored in ethnic studies and really enjoyed my classes on the Japanese Internment, Chinese and Filipino Studies and my favorite "Women's Studies", where I was one of only three men in the class. I graduated in 1990 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics and a minor in Ethnic Studies. I took a few months to "cruise", stayed at Duty Free and thought about my future goals. In 1991 I started seriously looking for a job in the banking or insurance industry and joined First Hawaiian Bank in 1992 as an account service representative, a fancy name for a "collector". As a rookie, I learned fast that "the check is not really in the mail" and after six months I was accepted into the management training program. I was transferred to several positions as a trainee and after one year, I was promoted to my first supervisory position at the King Liliha branch. I was then promoted to the Makiki branch, then to the Eaton Square branch as Service Supervisor and in 1998 I became the Branch Manager of Eaton Square. In 2001, I became the Assistant Branch Manager, Sales Manager and Personal Banking Officer at the Waikiki branch. I really enjoy working in Waikiki and my international customer base complements my long-standing interest in people. I first heard about Rotary from a friend at Eaton Square and when I moved to the Waikiki branch, I was lucky to have a Rotarian as my new boss. Donnie Yannell has been a member of the Rotary Club of Honolulu for many years and I visited differant clubs over several months. When my friend Ben Akana brought me to the Ala Moana Club meeting, I really enjoyed the casual friendliness and the diversity of the members. I look forward to our thursday meetings and I'm excited about serving as the chair of both the community service and new generations committees in Milton's year. After my first year as a Rotarian, I'm feeling great about helping so many people and I know that I can count on my fellow Rotarians to help out this "rookie".

ALA MOANA HOTEL

- LUNCH -

THURSDAY NOON

## JUNE PROGRAMS

3rd

**Lorin Gill**  
**Moanalua Gardens**

**10th**

**Drusilla Tanaka**  
**About Seniors**



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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**

**Clayton Wong reports:**

Since President Tony is in Osaka, President-Elect Milton presided over today's meeting. Our guest speaker was Mr. Anton Krucky from Tissue Genesis. Tissue Genesis was founded in 2002 and currently employs 16 people. They also grossed about \$4 million last year. Anton's litmus tests for start-up companies in Hawaii are 1) can it be done in Hawaii; 2) are there markets beyond the islands; and 3) will it help our young people stay or come back to Hawaii? Tissue Genesis meets these three requirements.

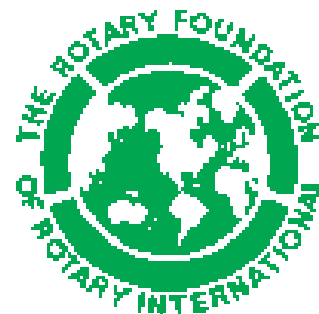
Essentially, Tissue Genesis is a biological laboratory that takes cell ideas and attempts to make these ideas practical and useable. One of the items they are working on is "growing" vessels for heart bay-pass surgery, instead of harvesting a vessel from one's legs. They are also growing connecting tissue such as ligaments and tendons. The mechanism that is used to achieve this is what Anton calls a "biochamber".



**Guest Speaker, Anton Krucky and Ala Moana Rotary's,**

**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?



## **Rotary Joint Board Meeting**

**"Valri" reports:**

**To all 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 Board Members:**

**Here is the info on our upcoming joint board meeting:**

**Date: Tuesday, June 8, 2004**

**Time: 12 noon**

**Place: Uraku Tower, Social room  
(the Berry's place)**

**See you all there!**

**Thank you Val. Also, there will be a sign-up sheet available at our next meeting indicating whether you will be there and whether you will be purchasing lunch. This helps Mary Ann who usually pre-orders our meals.**

**Also, please come prepared to share with the group any important information regarding your committee including any upcoming important dates you know about. This will help in the transition from this year to the next.**

**Dave and Mary Ann can explain to you where you should park at their building. Basically, you will need to check in at the front desk of the building with your name and car information before entering the parking garage.**

**KEEP THE DATE OPEN**

**Installation Dinner**

**Thursday June 24th**

**Hale Koa Hotel**

**6:00 P.M.**

**No luncheon meeting that date.**

**More details are on the way.**