



TIKI WA'HA ROTARY CLUB OF ALA MOANA



Lend a Hand

July 15, 2004

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE "WHAT DOES ROTARY MEAN TO ME?" Kristine Blancq



I was born in Newport News, Virginia, but as an official "Air Force Brat", we moved every three years and I experienced lots of change while I was growing up all over the world. My Dad was a Full Colonel for many years and when I was 12 years old, we moved to England when he became the Assistant Wing Commander for the Schulthorp Air Force Base in Norfolk. The family had grown to four daughters and we had lots of English friends who were eager to share the beauty of the English countryside with our fun loving family. Mom and Dad took us on several field trip adventures and I also became an avid theatre fan, especially with great \$1.00 seats in the balcony. I'll never forget seeing Julie Andrews perform in My Fair Lady and my lifelong enjoyment of theatre was developed in England. When I was 15 years old, Dad was transferred to Strike Command Tampa Florida, I graduated from T.R. Robinson High School and attended the University of Florida in Gainesville. I majored in theatre with a minor in english and broadcasting, graduated in 1968 with a Degree in Speech and Theatre and was also engaged to be married. Dad had been assigned as Vice Commander 13th Air Force in Clark AFB in the Philippines, so we were married in the Philippines in 1969, returned to Florida, then to South Carolina where I was a WSPA-TV weather girl and my husband joined Union Carbide. In 1970, my husband joined the Navy Officers Training School and in 1972, we were luckily assigned to Hawaii. Since residency requirements prohibited me from working on a local tv station, I worked in another industry and my first daughter was born in 1974. In 1975, I got a broadcast job with KHON-TV, but my husband finished his Navy service and we returned to WSPA-TV and Union Carbide in South Carolina. My second daughter was born in 1978 and we decided to bring the family back to Hawaii. I joined KITV in 1979 and stayed until 1985 when my husband passed away. I moved to Maine in 1987 and became the first woman member of the Rotary Club of Caribou. I wanted to return to the islands and in 1991, I came back, started my credit union career and met Art Lee, who happily sponsored my membership with the Rotary Club of Ala Moana. I married in 1992, moved to Colorado, joined the Rotary Club of Pike's Peak and was the 1995 Rotarian of the Year. In 1996, we moved back to Hawaii and I returned to my credit union career and the Rotary Club of Ala Moana. I love Rotary, enjoyed my 2002-2003 year as President and will never forget the moment at the 2003 RI Convention in Brisbane when the Polio Plus Goal achievement was announced to thousands of proud Rotarians. I really enjoy the diversity of our club; we are all unique in our age, race, gender, jobs and personal connections with the community. All my life, the constant moving to different places taught me to put down roots quickly and create a new home wherever I lived. Rotary is a vital part of my personal roots, a very important aspect of my life and a treasure of fellowship and friendships.

ALA MOANA HOTEL

- LUNCH -

THURSDAY NOON

JULY PROGRAMS

29th

**John Harvey Hall
Salvation Army**

AUGUST PROGRAMS

5TH

**Rodney Haraga
State Dept of Transportation**

12th

**Maile Kanemaru
Weed & Seed Program**

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**President of Rotary International
Glenn Estess, Sr.
District Governor District 5000
Claude Thompson,**

**Rotary Club of Ala Moana
Officers, Directors, Committee
Chairs
Rotary Year 2004-2005**

**President – Milton Miyakawa
President-Elect – Clayton Wong
Vice President – Glenn Tsumura
Secretary – Stephen Arita
Treasurer – Valri Murata
Past President – Tony Wong**

**Community Service and
New Generation – Victor Corpuz
Vocational Service – Berlyn Hinazumi
International Service – Roger Lerud
Club Service and
Sergeant-at-Arms – Mary Ann Berry
Fnds (RI & HRYF) – Rich Courson
Membership & PR – Sam Shenkus
Attendance – Wally Young
Fundraising – Dave Berry
Indoctrination – Dick Bento
Historian – Ethel Ching**

The Fiscal Year's First Club Assembly!

The 2004-2005 year's first club assembly was held at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii on 22 July 2004, at 12:00 Noon. The food was catered by Marian's Catering a very reduced rate, \$5 including tax, gratuity, and parking – A very special rate none-the-less!



President Milton at the helm at our first club assembly!

President Milton started the assembly by passing out a questionnaire to the membership asking for membership feelings on various issues such as but not limited to: service projects, fundraisers, fellowship functions, district 5000 activities, and the like. The results of the questionnaire will be published at a later date, perhaps as soon as next week.



The food "spread" catered by Marian'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?



- The Ala Moana Hotel was recently sold, and a concern on future availability of parking at the center was raised. Also, it is unclear whether or not the hotel will continue to be a viable venue for meetings in the future, depending on what the new owners have in mind for the property.
- The price of meals will be increased to \$17/meal. The actual cost to each member will be slightly higher since we typically collect a little more to offset the cost of lunch for our guests.
- We will continue to be located based on space availability of the hotel. The hotel has the option to “bump” us with 1 month’s prior notice, although the hotel said that this occurrence would be rare.
- We will not have additional storage space, and we desperately need space. Members who currently store our club stuff and actively move it about each week know the importance of on-site storage very well!
- After two weeks, we will no longer have the use of a cashier, however, this will be a problem if we move as well.
- We will not be allowed signage at the hotel, although most places would not allow us this any how.

Points discussed with regards to the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii were:

- Meals will cost us \$16/person, including tax, gratuity, and parking.
- We will have a dedicated room, the JCCH Lounge. We may be moved from time to time, but we will always have space for our meeting at this facility.
- We may be allowed to place signage at the facility, and perhaps allowed to place some of our placards on the lounge wall. There will also likely be a mail box furnished to us.
- We will likely be provided with ample storage space at a very reasonable rate.
- We will not have the use of a cashier, however, this will be a problem in any case.
- There will likely be opportunities to partner with JCCH on service projects, and the area is potentially a source of new members.

Another important point brought out was that if we decided to leave Ala Moana Hotel, we should leave on good terms. Past Presidents Leon and Scott stated that we previously left the hotel and had to return to them on our hands and knees after about a year at another venue.

Although a final decision was not made during the meeting, the membership did commit to have another meeting at this facility and make a final decision at the end of this meeting. The meeting will be held on 12 August 2004, in the JCCH Lounge. President Milton asked the membership to vote their conscience, but if one does not have an opinion one way or the other, he asked that they vote for the move.