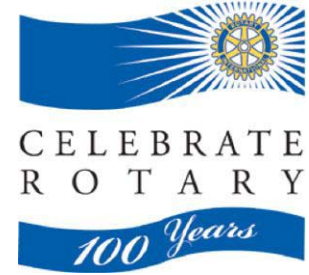




TIKI WA'HA ROTARY CLUB OF ALA MOANA



August 19, 2004

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE "WHAT DOES ROTARY MEAN TO ME?"

Ben Akana

By Sam Shenkus



I was born in Honolulu, grew up in Makiki, attended Lincoln Elementary School and then Kamehameha Schools. I joined the Men's Concert Glee Club in my freshman year and enjoyed singing all four years of high school. During my senior year, a group of 20 Glee Club members had the opportunity to travel with some major Hawaiian entertainers for an HVCB tour throughout the midwest. The tour was in January and February and included Cleveland, Detroit, Pittsburgh and Chicago. It was such an eye opening experience to drive in our buses thru the cities, see exciting landmarks like Three Rivers Stadium, then witness the amazing dirt, crime and poverty of the inner cities. We were not allowed out of our hotels after 5:30pm and I still remember being amazed at the differences between the images of the cities and what I saw while riding the buses. I graduated in 1973 and, based on a very generous scholarship program, attended The College of Idaho in Caldwell. I majored in Economics, learned how to ski, made many new friends from families of farmers, ranchers and recreational resort operators and really enjoyed the totally different dimensions of land in Idaho. I also became an active member of the men's tennis team, traveled a lot for competitions and started my life long love of tennis. During my senior year, I began an internship with Idaho First National Bank and after graduating in 1977 with a BA Degree in Economics, I was excited to join their management program. In 1979, I was transferred to the corporate headquarters in Boise as a Commercial Loan Officer. My grandfather founded the KEALAOKAMALAMALAMA Church in Kailua-Kona in 1934 and another Church in Makiki that my family ministered over the years. In 1982, I returned home to help my father with our family duties for the church. Later in 1982, I also became a Commercial Loan Officer with American Security Bank. In 1983 we merged with First Interstate Bank and I became a VP in 1989. In 1991, we were acquired by First Hawaiian Bank and I remained a VP. In 1998, I was part of the branch team that opened the new university banking center on Isenberg. In 2002, I returned to the main banking center as the VP and Business Banking Team Leader. In 2003, I was promoted to Senior VP and Business Banking Team Leader. Over the years, I have also remained very active as an officer and director of the board for my family's church, but I still make the time for my weekend tennis. In 2001, my client Rich Courson invited me to his Rotary lunch and I still chuckle at meeting another client, Dave Arita, at my first meeting. I wasn't sure what to expect, but I was so impressed with the tight knit family atmosphere of the group. Everyone was not just friendly, it seemed that there was a real closeness and warmth within the group. I am really grateful to Rich for sponsoring me into the club and I find our lunch meetings to be a welcome break of fellowship and learning. Rotary and the 4-Way Test are a balance for me between what I hope to accomplish in my spiritual and personal life and what I strive to accomplish in my professional career. I look forward to becoming more active in the club and serving our community with my fellow Rotarians.

ALA MOANA HOTEL - LUNCH - THURSDAY NOON

AUGUST
PROGRAMS

26th

Ronald McDonald House
Speaker to be named

SEPTEMBER
PROGRAMS

2nd

Hal Jones
Global Hope Network

9th

Robbie Alm
HECO

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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

Weekly Meeting Highlights

Clayton Wong's notes



President Milton Miyakawa and Treasurer Valri Murata

Special Visitor: Illustrious past member Art Lee was in the house! Actually, Art sponsored many of our current club members. Fellow member Sam Shenkus absolutely loved Art's hairdo. As immediate Past President Tony Wong put it, "Art is a babe magnet!" Many happy dollars flowed in commemoration of Art's visit.



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?





Marathon Man Richard Kagehiro (left) with Past President Chris Worrall during "Poker Night".

New Weekly Meeting Billing System: Heads up! President Milton announced that our new lunch billing system will go into effect next week. Cost for lunch at the door will be \$20, and there are a variety of pre-payment plans.

Pahole Endangered Native Hawaiian Plant Nursery: This service project will be on 28 August 2004. Members who have signed up for this event are as follows:

**Jody Kadokawa
Stanley Togikawa
Garrett Takata
Chris Worall
Tony Wong
Dave Berry**

**Ethel Ching (2)
Scott O'Brien
Craig Yoshikawa
Victor Corpuz
Mary Ann Berry (2)
Clayton Wong (3)**

New Generations and Community Service Chairperson Victor Corpuz made an announcement during the meeting. There is an option to share a ride with the HBA Interact Club who will be joining in for this service project. Also, Victor will be taking orders for a bento lunch. Please contact him if you'd like to participate in either or both of these two options. Additional details are attached.

There will be a variety of service opportunities, depending on how adventurous the individual volunteer is. We will however be primarily tasked with planting cultivated plants in the wild at the perimeter of the nursery facility and watering both planted and cultivating plants. Unfortunately, our Centennial Project Plaque will not be ready in time for this service project and will need to be placed on the facility at a later date.



Another shot from our last service project from Pahole. The ride up from the lower parking area up to the nursery. Don't worry, all of us do not need to ride in the back of the truck.



Guest Speaker: John Garibaldi from Hawaii Super Ferry spoke at our club today. It was a timely visit, since Rodney Haraga briefly mentioned this program during a visit a couple of weeks ago.

John started by mentioning the Sea Flight ferry system in operation in the 1970's. The new ferry system differs vastly starting with the fact that the Sea Flight vessel could fit within the width of the new ferry. The new ferry will be 3-stories by 100 feet long by 50 feet wide! The new vessel will also have a 300 vehicle capacity and will be capable of carrying 900 passengers. Hawaii Super Ferry has already commissioned the construction of the first ferry with a shipyard hailing from Alabama. They also plan on commissioning the construction of a second ferry shortly. John also considers the ferry system to be "Interstate Route H-4". The ferry is eligible for a variety of State and Federal subsidies – ship building aid, port improvement funds, etc. The system will serve to unify the islands and lies somewhere between the capabilities of air service and barge service. It's not as fast as air service but will cost about half as much, and its more expensive than barge service but it's a heck of a lot faster. The ferry will initially make one to two trips per day. It takes about 3 hours to get to Maui and about 4 hours to get to the Big Island. It travels at a top speed of 40 knots, and will have a "cruise-like" environment – There will be three restaurants and wireless internet service on board.

John added that the ferry system will be helpful to neighbor island farmers and the military. Neighbor island farmer will be able to ship their produce at a better price, and the ferry system will be able to handle 900 soldiers, including their vehicles. The technology used is proven – it is about 14 years old. Hawaii Super Ferry should begin service sometime in 2006.