



September 14, 2016

**SPEAKER OF THE WEEK**  
Michael Malaghan  
Picture Bride Story

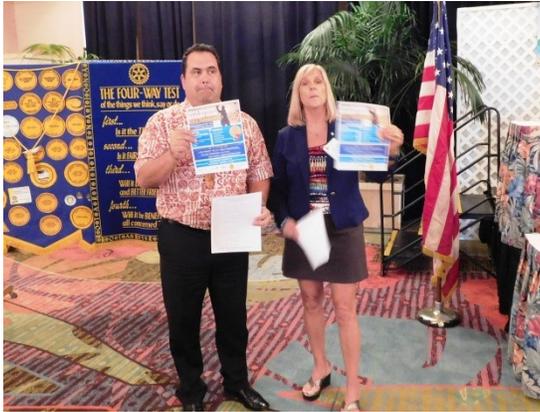
**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**



HAWAII CLUB 30 | DISTRICT 5000  
CHARTERED JUNE 20, 1939  
RI PRESIDENT— JOHN GERM  
D.GOVERNOR—CLINT SCHROEDER



*President Joseph Gedeon and President Elect Steve Koyama thanked Jean Torres, Executive Director of Guide Dogs of Hawaii for a very interesting talk on the workings of Guide Dogs of Hawaii, how the dogs are trained and financed by donations from the public. It costs approximately \$60,000 to train one dog!*



*PP Chad Adams who is in charge of the 2016 Waikiki Rotary Golf Tournament and PP Janet Scheffer who is in charge of Public Relations for the Waikiki International Food Fest gave a brief presentation on the two functions and asked for members to participate and buy tickets, and invite friend to these events.*

 **Books 4 Kids**

Volunteers are needed  
**Jefferson Elementary School**  
324 Kapahulu Ave. Honolulu  
**September 16, 2016**  
Time 8AM-11AM

Also  
**Waikiki Elementary School**  
3710 Leahi Ave. Honolulu  
**September 23, 2016**  
Time 8AM-11AM

Please sign up Today!  
Volunteers: Please report to the school Cafeteria



*We should all take a moment of silent prayer to honor all those who lost their lives in the most terrible terrorist attack in US History on our homeland. To those brave Firefighters, Police and Rescue personnel that went into the burning World Trade Center towers without hesitation to save occupants. To the over 3000 occupants who perished inside the towers, our thoughts are with them!*

We nestled the club into the Grand Ballroom for the meeting today, some members adorned with their **Paul Harris Fellowship** medallions – this being the first meeting of the month. **President Joseph Gedeon** was at the helm, and with a sharp tap to the Rotary Bell brought the meeting to order.

Today's Inspiration was given by **PP Gene Gelfo**, who talked about Rotary being Family. The Pledge to the Flag was led by **Paul McGillicuddy**. Before normal Introductions, the Head Table was noted, including **PE Steve Koyama**, along with an acquaintance of many on the room, marketing Guru **Alan Pollack**, and our guest speaker **Jeanne Torres**, from **Guide Dogs of Hawaii**, along with her canine companion **Luke**. This was the first time in memory that a dog was also seated at (officially under) the head table! Our song leader was **PDG Phil Sammer**, who carries a fine tune and hence avoided the very likely howling from Luke had others who will remain unmentioned been singing today. **Sergeant-at-Arms Nick Buechel** was once again tasked with introductions of guests. PE Steve performed the special welcoming of our sole off-shore, first-time visiting Rotarian – **Mr. Kazu Tanaka** from Kyushu, Japan.

The aloha bucket was also managed by Sergeant-at-Arms Nick, who was able to coax and tease quite a few of us into handing over some cash. Plunking down a few bucks were **PP Sally Blanchard**, fresh off an extended break and recuperation, **PP Dave Hamil**, **PP Tony Gedeon**, **PE Steve**, **PP Gene Gelfo**, **PP Gene Grounds**, **PP Dick Matti**, **Flora Lu**, **Pres. Joe**, our guest from Japan and several others who apparently are being omitted due to the inept ability to record by the lousy scribe.

An onslaught of announcements was dispelled into the crowd, including a call for volunteers for the books to student's projects upcoming in the next

couple of weeks. Impassioned requests, borderline begging in fact, were made for additional prizes and ticket sales for the looming **International Food Fest** fundraiser on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Our Golf Tournament Co-Chairs **PP Janet Scheffer** and **PP Chad Adams** also asked for participants, volunteers and prizes. Volunteers are also being requested for the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Children's & Youth Day held on the grounds of the State Legislature on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

PE Steve introduced our guest speaker, **Jeanne Torres**, the Executive Director of **Guide Dogs of Hawaii** (GDH). Ms. Torres first acknowledged her executive assistant, Luke the dog, who faithfully stayed by her side at the podium throughout the meeting. GDH has existed for 61 years, with over 80 guide dogs placed within the state. The projected cost of breeding, training and placing a guide dog is approximately \$60,000 each – the cost is borne by donations and there is no fee to the recipient. The organization receives funds from several Foundations such as the Jack & Marie Lord trust, Aloha United Way, the Combined Federal Campaign and many generous individuals. These donors help make independent travel for blind and visually impaired people possible, but it is still not enough to meet the growing need. There are approximately 25,000 blind or visually impaired people in Hawaii and of these about 60% are unemployed. Ms. Torres talked about new technologies, the advent of smart phones and how initially they were not able to be used by the blind, and how blind people have adjusted to using these phones and tablets using SIRI. The organization has a new initiative called the One-Stop Center, which is being headed up by a strong fundraising committee. Ms. Torres also spoke of her personal story of going blind at the age of 36, and how it affected her life. The guide dog is a key factor to gain independence and it helped her regain her

dignity back. Now she has her life back as a mother, a wife, and with full time employment. She urged us to think not about why blindness happens but rather to ask ourselves how blindness can be overcome through guide dogs and other technologies to assist these people live normal lives. In closing, she asked us to not forget about blind people. A short question and answer period ensued.

The investment portfolio winning ticket was held by **PP Gene Grounds**, yet alas, he could pull only the dreaded red marble.

Before closing, Pres. Joe led us in a recital of the 4 -Way Test, and then gave another rap to the bell that brought another inspirational meeting to a close.

*Respectfully submitted,*

**PP Dave Hamil**

*Today's Scribe*

## SEPTEMBER

### BIRTHDAYS

Alvin Goo 9/29  
Kathy Higa 9/15  
Cindy Tagavilla 9.28  
Stephen Morgan 9/13  
Robert Walker 9/09  
Phil Sammer 9/30  
Doug Seifers 9/21

### ANNIVERSARIES

Gene Gelfo 9/17 98  
Adrienne King 9/22/10  
Flora Lu 9/09/09  
Janet Scheffer 9/22/10



## ROTARY MEMBERS LINK LOVE OF BEER, CLEAN WATER CRISIS



When you sit down to enjoy a beer, you probably don't spend a lot of time thinking about one of its main ingredients – water. Or the fact that 3,000 children die each day from diseases caused by unsafe water.

A group of innovative Rotarians aren't just thinking; they're doing something about it.

Their group, Beers Rotarians Enjoy Worldwide (BREW), has organized events around the world and is working to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for Rotary's global water, sanitation, and hygiene efforts.

"By drinking a beer, I can help bring fresh water to a village in Africa," says Steven Lack, a member of the Rotary Club of Pleasant Hill, California, USA. "If you can drink beer and some of the money goes to doing good in the world, that is something you can feel good about."

Fellowships like BREW are Rotary's way of bringing together members who share a particular passion. Rotarian Action Groups unite members who have expertise in a specific service area. The beer fellowship's leaders realized that joining forces with an action group dedicated to providing access to clean water would create a sum larger than the two parts.

"Beer and water have a natural affinity; you need water to brew beer" says Moses Aryee, past president of the Rotary Club of Accra-West, Ghana, and co-chair of the beer fellowship. "Our vision is a global approach to fresh water around the world, because beer is around the world."

The fellowship members are working with the Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group to identify specific water projects to support by funneling 25 percent of the fellowship's dues to those projects, says Lack, the fellowship's vice chair.

The members also plan to approach major brewers on each continent to seek financial support for water projects, much as the nonprofit Water.org is receiving \$1.2 million from Stella Artois.

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<b>Rotary Foundation Chair</b>	Bill Amigone
<b>Sister Club Liaison, Japan</b>	Ikko Tomita,
<b>Sister Club Liaison, Taiwan</b>	Flora Lu, Nora Chen

### TODAY'S SPEAKER: MICHAEL MALAGHAN



The lights flickered on at the Hawaii Theater's premier showing of the documentary, "The First Battle," revealing why most Japanese in Hawaii were not interned in WWII. An Eureka moment. Only two weeks earlier, I had decided to write an historical novel. While I spent a lifetime in the corporate world on four continents, in my heart I always thought of myself as a writer. Married to a Japanese, living in Hawaii, I knew the story of the Nisei Territorial Guard, who were stripped of their uniforms weeks after Pearl Harbor only to enlist a year later when allowed, was the stuff of a good story.

BUT, these American-Japanese warriors did not just drop out of the sky on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941. They had mothers and fathers who left an improvised country to come to America. An immigrant story as rich as the Irish, the Italians, the Jews etc. Yet I could not find a single novel that told their story. Why? No matter. I would make it right. Picture Bride is volume 1 of a trilogy honoring the Japanese-Americans who fought for America in WWII.

Born in Wisconsin in 1943, raised in Florida, I paid my way through the University of Florida by selling books door-to-door. I finished my business career 41 years later as president of a Walt Disney licensee. McGraw Hill published my legacy business book "Making Millions in Direct Sales" in 2005.

Recent travel has centered on book research. Tomoko and I visited the island of Amakusa where the major export for two generations were their daughters to the Asian pillow trade. We walked through the cemetery in Sandakan, Borneo where many of those unfortunates were buried in their teens and twenties. From this experience, Haru, our picture bride, who escapes the Amakusan fate to become the mother of three Nisei soldiers, was born in my imagination.

We visited Hiroshima's Fudoin temple ... home to Haru for four years ... to better understand the Hiroshima of 1905. We rode mules up the mountain side in Kalaupapa, Molokai to feel the life of lepers in 1912. We toured sugar cane plantation housing sites that were home to two generations of Japanese immigrants.

# Rotary



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