

**Kapolei Toastmasters (KTM)**

**Thursday**

**May21, 2015**

**12:00-1:00PM**

**Kapolei Hale Conference Room C**

**Theme:**

**Memorial Day**

**Meeting Recap**

**(Submitted by Joyce Bullion, CC, CL, Kapolei Toastmasters)**

**1. Opening of Meeting:**

- President Holly Holloway, ACB, CL, opened the meeting and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- We had 17 people total which consisted of 3 guests and 14 Members.
- Members in attendance were: Kiku, Etsuko, Holly, Chakib, Lani, James, Joyce, Jason, Mariea, Angela, Rasika, Irobela, Mark and Sara. Honored guests were: Sai and Rukmimi Leue (children of Jason and Rasika) and Steve Hutchison.
- Holly shared why she is wearing a red nose. Today is red nose day as designated by Walgreen's Drug Store to bring attention to children who live in poverty.
- Holly announced that Seagull Schools have invited us to a Campus Tour and a flyer was passed out. The tours are offered from June 1-June 5 from 9:30-12 Noon. Phone 674-1444.

**2. Education Session:**

- Holly introduced our TMOD who is Etsuko Fields, TM.

who introduced:

- **Timekeeper:** Holly Holloway, ACB, CL explained her role as Timekeeper.
- **Grammarian/Ah Counter/Word of the Day:** Kiku Rees, TM volunteered to be Grammarian/Ah Counter at the last minute. This is her first time. She explained her role to as Grammarian/Ah Counter. James gave Kiku the Word of the Day which is commemorate.
- **Jokemaster/Inspiration:** Mariea Vaughan, CTM, as jokemaster supplied us with inspiration. She reminded us of the “Our Gang” series. She talked about a pilot with Spanky and Alfalfa from the Little Rascals in which a Chinese family moved in and the Caucasian kids bullied their Chinese friend. Spanky came to his friend’s rescue the Mother of the friend was so grateful that she invited Spanky and Alfalfa to dinner. The Little Rascals were scared because they were afraid they would not like Chinese food. The Little Rascals were delighted to see they had eggs and ham. There are plenty of things we have in common when we are of different cultures. I am always amazed at Mariea’s remarkable memory. Even though she is visually impaired, she has stronger senses that make up for her impairment.

### 3. Featured Speakers:

- **Speaker #1:** Jason Leue, TM, gave speech number 5 from the Competent Communicator manual titled titled “Service”. The main objective for speech number 5 is “your body speaks”. Jason’s body did speak for sure. Jason went to the beach recently and watched a fish flopping on the sand. Someone put it back in the water and it swam and was in its natural state. Jason laid down on a table and flopped around to show us what a fish does when it is out

of water. He said our natural state is “to serve”. When Jason was a teenager, he did everything he could to avoid “service to others”. He wanted to be a Rock Star worse than anything and he formed a band called “Loya”. On the cover picture he stood and stared into the sky. He did not want to have a boss so he went independent. While playing football, he blew his knee out. While laid up, Jason thought about his life and about his priorities. He signed up for a volunteer helping with youngsters with autism and ADHD. While helping a young man with autism, he realized he was the happiest he had ever been in his life. He realized that when he did no service work he was like the fish floundering. His natural state is to serve like the fishes natural state in when in the water. Jason said the speeches give for our election last week were inspirational and is a reminder to get back in the water. Great speech Jason! You made so many great points in “non-preachy” way.

- **Speaker #2:** Angela Smith, ACB, gave speech number 1- “Warm up your Audience” from advanced manual Humorously Speaking titled “Growing Old”. Angela started by telling us about a 49 year old woman who visited Hawaii and came from New York. I wondered if she was the woman. In time she revealed that she was talking about herself. She came here for rest and relaxation. While on the beach, she saw a man on a rock waving at her and telling her to join him. She looked around to see who he was waving at and it was her. She waved at him and told him to join her. So he joined her on the beach. His name was Harold Bellamy. He was much younger than her. That was in November. When she returned to New York, she invited him for dinner and he came for dinner and proposed to her. A friend named Jimmy had a party for

them and had hula dancers and all. They married on Valentine's Day though they barely knew each other. They moved to Hawaii and Angela got a job as a counselor with the Salvation Army. It resulted in a complete change in life style. Harold had heart disease and passed away one year later. Great speech, Angela, you warmed us up and had some mystery in your story and saved the details for just the right time. I love how you shared your personal experience.

- **Speaker #3:** Rasika Leue, TM, gave speech number 2 from the Competent Communicator manual-Organize your speech-titled "Commonalities in Values". She started by asking each of us "What makes a good person good?" She spoke a little about Memorial Day and how fortunate we are for our freedoms. We take it all for granted. There are conflicts and terrorism all over the world. In some countries it is against the law to express your beliefs. You can be killed for having different beliefs. It is up to parents to teach your children to love and respect others. So many use labels such as fat, old, cop, etc. Rasika has many labels like mother, female, Caucasian/Spanish, Hindu, teacher. Actions speak louder than labels. What is a "good" person? It is someone who cares about others. One of Rasika's favorite stories is about Jesus and Mary Magdellan. Mary was a prostitute (label) and Jesus did not reject her as other had, but He saw her good. The Tax collector (label) was not liked by many and he climbed the tree to see Jesus and Jesus chose his house to go to. Our fruits are our actions which express themselves as Compassion, Love and respect. What is a bad person? A bad person is one who acts out greed, hate and the like. Even though we may have been bad yesterday, we can be

good today. Great speech, Rasika! I ask myself that question all the time. I always get the same answer.

#### **4. Table Topics Master:**

- James Fu, ACB, ALB volunteered to be Table Topics Master at the last minute when we had a speaker cancel.
  - **Table Topic Speaker Number 1:** Chakib Benachour, TM, was called on to answer the first question because he is military. James said he joined the military to secure his future and he asked Chakib why he joined the military. Chakib said he joined for a secure job and to climb the ladder and to live in Hawaii. He had learned English and a friend suggested he join the military. Chakib enlisted and became a mechanical engineer and now works with top secret and has been in for 20 years.
  - **Table Topic Speaker Number 2:** James shared about how his son put leis on the graves at Punchbowl as a young man when he was a boy scout on Memorial Day. His question to Mark Posenecker, TM, was How do you pay respects to those who gave their lives in the military on Memorial Day? Mark said his father was Navy and his father suggested Mark not join the military. He has never celebrated Memorial Day but is so grateful for those who have given their lives so we can be free and he is grateful daily. He feels we should remember all branches of the military. I often think about the Coast Guard living out here in the middle of the ocean. They save many lives.
  - **Table Topic Speaker Number 3:** James mentioned how his father served this country and James goes to his grave on Memorial Day to pay respects. His father

insisted on being buried in his military garb. So the next question for Sara Okuda, TM, was how do you pay respects to your ancestors? Sara said her great grandparents came from Okinawa. Her ancestors wanted her to live a good life and as an American she is grateful to them and she honors them by being grateful and living a good life. Good answer, Sara.

### 5. Evaluation Session:

- **Evaluator for Speaker #1:** Chakib Benachour, TM, evaluated Jason Leue, TM. Chakib said it is not so much what you do as it is why you do it. Jason's speech was inspirational. Jason shared his personal experience and had excellent body gestures. He had good transitions from one thought to another. He was positive and used encouraging words. Chakib suggested he use visual aids.
- **Evaluator for Speaker #2:** We did a group evaluation for Angela. Many shared. Mariea Vaughan shared she had good humor. Another shared that she shared very well with personal experience which helped us to connect. She used good punchlines and poignant transitions. Chakib shared she did well to build suspense and is a great story teller.
- **Evaluator for Speaker #3:** Irobela Wreagh, CL, was evaluator for Rasika Leue, TM. Irobela mentioned how Rasika chose a title we could all relate to. She did good research and was organized in her delivery. She had a strong opening and asked a great question "What makes a good and bad person?" Irobela would love to hear Rasika sing and she loved the statement "Actions speak louder than labels". Irobela is going to use that. Rasika was joyous and had good energy. Suggestions were for Rasika to not look at the notes as much and to "breathe and

Relax”. Irobela ended with saying Rasika used good voice inflection.

## **6.Reports:**

- **Timekeeper:** Holly gave a thorough report on each person’s time. One person went over.
- **Grammarian/Ah Counter:** Kiku gave a thorough report on each person’s word fillers, grammar and word of the day along with effective pauses. Kiku did well for her first time.
- **TMOD Closing remarks:** Etsuko Fields, TM, did a lot of research on today’s topic. The first Memorial Day was in 1862 in Georgia and was for Armed Forces. She said the meeting was very interesting and had a good flow and she got to know the speakers better. Etsuko has served in the Navy as a Civilian and has been married for many years to a military man. She has seen many die defending our country. We live where there is continual peace and it is hard to remember that many do not.

## **7. General Evaluator:**

- Lani Abrigana, ACB, CL, is General Evaluator and elaborated
  - on how well the room was set up and on how early it was done.
  - Meeting started on time.
  - Holly introduced the guest.
  - Evaluators did well to speak on how well the speakers met their objectives.
  - Group evaluation was very effective.
  - Kudos to Rasika as it seemed her speech was a continuation of Jason’s speech.
  - Kiku and James filled in at the last minute and James even came with a word of the day.
  - It was a great meeting.

## **8. Announcements/Adjournment:**

- Holly asked if everyone had signed up on the spreadsheet that wanted to.
- Holly mentioned that Angela had passed out a flyer for the membership drive (Beat The Clock) and we were asked to invite people to come to the meeting and to join.
- Meeting adjourned at 1:01PM