

Kapolei Toastmasters
Thursday, November 12, 2015, 12:00-1:00 pm
Kapolei Hale, Conference Room C
Theme: "Veterans"

Meeting Recap

(submitted by James Fu, President, Kapolei Toastmasters)

1. President Calls Meeting to Order

- James called the meeting to order and then welcomed our members to the meeting. There were no guests for this meeting.

- In attendance were twelve members: Jerome Ababa, Lani Abrigana, Chakib Benachour, Cheryl Faunce, James Fu, Holly Holloway, Eddie Joseph, Rose Martinez, Tanya Mendoza, Sara Okuda, Owen Tamamoto, Irobela Wreagh

2. Educational Session

- Lani was our TMOD. Since the theme of the meeting was "Veterans", Lani gave an excellent and brief history of why our nation celebrates Veterans Day on the 11th day of the 11th month of the year (Armistice Day for World War I).

3. Timekeeper, Grammarian/Ah Counter, Inspiration:

- Sara saved our meeting by volunteering to be BOTH timekeeper and grammarian.
- Holly gave a nice inspiration and challenged us to accomplish our goals so we can then help others fulfill their goals. In the Military, Holly's goal was to become an excellent map reader (topographic maps), and she then trained many medics.

4. Featured Speakers: Lani then introduced our featured speakers.

- **Featured Speaker #1:** : Irobela Wreagh, CC, was our first speaker, and she gave a speech from the advanced manual, "Interpretive Reading", Project No. 3 (The Monodrama), titled "Letter to a Thief". A Monodrama is where a person tells or acts out a dramatic story and assumes the one chief role. Irobela read a story written by her friend and author, Marcia Mager. Here's Marcia's story: in 1999, Marcia was enjoying a beautiful day at the beach, but became very disheartened when she discovered that a thief broke into her car with a screwdriver and stole her camera and her backpack. Marcia wasn't too concerned

about the material things that could be replaced, but she was very disappointed when her backpack was also stolen. Why? Because her backpack contained treasured, priceless items such as her memoirs (remember, she is an author), her Day Runner planning journal, and her favorite engraves Cross pen. Marcia came up with a very interesting concept called a thief return bag, which was both funny and very creative. The entire audience enjoyed Irobela's tremendous reading of this story.

- **Featured Speaker #2:** Owen Tamamoto, ACB, ALB, gave a speech from the advanced manual, "The Entertaining Speaker", Project No. 5 (Speaking After Dinner), titled "I Know a Veteran". Owen spoke about a Veteran, who just happened to be his Dad. Owen reminisced about his fond memories of growing up on the Hamakua Coast on the Big Island with his family. As a youngster, Owen still remembers how his Dad smelled of the sugar mill where he worked, and Owen loved the smell! He also remembers how his Dad instilled values in his children such as to always study hard in school. As an example of the kind of person Owen's Dad was, in 1944, when his Dad was on a transport ship headed to Angel Island (S.F.), a fellow shipmate wasn't feeling well enough to go to dinner. In those days, they wouldn't give you food if you missed a meal. Owen's Dad saw how this shipmate was ailing and was unable to go to dinner, so he brought food to this shipmate's bunk so that he wouldn't starve. Thirty three years later, Owen's family attended Owen's brother's medical school graduation from U.H. It just so happens that Owen's girlfriend, Jan, was also graduating (something other than medicine) and her family also attended the graduation. When Jan's Dad saw Owen's Dad, he immediately yelled: "You da guy"! It turns out that Jan's Dad was the ailing shipmate that Owen's Dad brought food. Owen's father passed away over one month ago, and from Owen's story, you can see why Owen and his family are such great people. This was an outstanding and inspirational speech; one for the ages!
- **Featured Speaker #3:** Chakib Benachour, TM, gave a speech from the Competent Communications manual, Project No. 7 (Research Your Topic), titled "5 Seconds". Chakib gave a speech on the dangers of texting and driving. Did you realize that In just 5 seconds, if your car is travelling 55 mph, when you brake, your car will still travel the length of a football field. Chakib had a person from the audience come up to the

stage to demonstrate what's it's like to text for 5 seconds (it's like having blinders over your eyes). Chakib used the following facts to show why we shouldn't text and drive:

- 9 people in America die each day due to texting or using their cell phone while driving.
- 25% of all crashes in America are due to drivers texting or using their cell phones while driving.
- 33% of drivers in America between the age of 18 and 64 admit that they text while driving.
- 40% of teenagers text and drive with their parents in the car.
- 341,000 accidents per year due to texting while driving.

Chakib brought an important awareness to all of us that texting while driving is something we all need to avoid.

5. Table Topics: Jerome filled in a Table Topics Master.

- Jerome asked Holly what she did for the Veteran's Day holiday. Holly said that she is helping to form a new Toastmasters club in town, and she attended their Toastmasters meeting. Holly then focused her attention to our valuable member, Joyce, who is currently ailing from an illness.
- Jerome asked Tanya when was the last time she won anything in a contest. Tanya showed why she is so good at Table Topics, because, even though she has no answer to Jerome's question, she filled the time with accolades for all of our three speakers today. For Table Topics, if you don't know how to answer the Table Topics question, you should try to say anything to fill the 60 second minimum time, and Tanya certainly did that.

6. Evaluation Session:

- Rose evaluated Irobela's speech. Although not required for this project, Rose suggested that Irobela could have memorized the reading. Irobela had very good vocal variety.
- Eddie evaluated Owen's speech. As mentioned earlier, Owen's speech was one of the ages, and it was difficult for Eddie to come up with speech suggestions for Owen.

- James evaluated Chakib's speech and said that Chakib's speech had a very good message for all of us. Chakib has very good hand and arm gestures. Suggestion were to vary his body movement on the stage and to have a catchy introduction and a more dramatic conclusion.

7. Reports:

- Timekeeper and Grammarian:
 - Sara did an outstanding job by filling in at the last moment for both roles. Sara, thank you very much!
- Lani then closed off her TMOD role by mentioning that her Dad (World War II), her husband (Vietnam) and her son (Hawaii National Guard in Iraq) were all veterans. Although she wouldn't want a grandson to be a veteran of a war, she is proud of the men in her family that served our country.
- General Evaluation: Holly commented that this was a very good meeting. Jerome set up the room around 11:30 am. There were excellent speeches at today's meeting. She suggested that we sign up for roles sooner so that we can have better planned meetings.

8. Announcements/Adjournment:

- Holly mentioned that District 49 is conducting a training this Sat (11/14) from 9 to 11am called "Train the Trainer". Holly will email the information to our club members.
- Holly presented prizes to all who accumulated points in our recently completed membership drive contest. Lani, Irobela and Chakib were presented with Toastmaster mementos for their efforts. Holly then presented the grand prizes to Tanya, who accumulated the most membership drive points. Among the many grand prizes was a hydro flash drinking container. Congratulation to Tanya!
- Meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:03 pm
- After the meeting, Holly conducted a new member orientation for our newest member, Cheryl Faunce.