

Kapolei Toastmasters (KTM)
Thursday April 14
12:00-1:00PM
Kapolei Hale Conference Room "C"
Theme: "National Dolphin Day"
Meeting Recap
(Submitted by Joyce Bullion CC, CL Kapolei Toastmasters)

1. Opening of Meeting:

- James Fu, ACB, ALB opened the meeting and we followed his lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- We had 14 people total which consisted of 11 Members and three honored guests.
- Members in attendance were: Jerome, Lani, Joyce, James, Holly, Eddie, Princes, Rose, Sara, Kiku and Owen. Honored guests were Frank DeGracia, Francia Birulin and Florie Barry from Minnesota.

2. Education Session:

- James introduced our TMOD who was Lani Abrigana, ACB, CL
 - Who introduced:
 - **Timekeeper:** Sara Okuda, TM stepped in at the last minute to be Timekeeper. We appreciate Sara's continued willingness to fill roles.
 - **Grammarian/Ah Counter/Word of the Day:** Holly Holloway, ACG, ALB explained her role as Grammarian/Ah Counter in style. Her word of the day was GRAMPUS-a noun for dolphin, whale etc.
 - **Jokemaster/Inspiration:** Florie Barry, ACB, CL as Inspiration master said "In life I am not below you, nor above you, but I am beside you." In Toastmasters all you have to do is ask for help. Even though Florie comes

to Hawaii from Minnesota for a vacation. We are thrilled that she is always willing to fill a role.

3. **Featured Speakers:**

- **Featured Speaker #1:** Eddie Joseph, DTM gave speech 1 (Ice breaker) from Competent Communicator manual titled “Night of the Bloodless Coup”. Eddie traveled to Ghana but had a stop in Senegal. Eddie needed desperately to use the restroom. He went into the restroom and all others carried their luggage on top of their head but him. They all stared at him and he decided to walk out and board the plane to use the restroom. He used the facility on the plane and as he exited, a guard stopped him. Troops with rifles came marching by and arrested a man. Eddie was scared and stood in shock. They had stopped in Senegal to refuel. Part 2 was the landing in Ghana. Come back and hear Part 2.
- **Featured Speaker #2:** Kiku Rees, TM gave project 3 from the Competent Communicator Manual with goal of getting to the point. The speech was titled “Turtles”. Kiku showed us a picture of a green sea turtle on the beach on the north shore from her phone and shared how excited she was to see it in real life. The turtle in the picture had a name and is 42 years old. In 1978 the turtle made the endangered species list. Since then they are making a come-back. Kiku shared a legend of a turtle that changed into a human form and watched over the keiki. The legend has perhaps helped the relationship between turtles and people to blossom and grow.
- **Featured Speaker #3:** Princeslehuanani K., TM began with a Hawaiian chant (Ole). Silence filled the room. Princes asked us all a question. “How would you feel if you awakened lost, beaten and locked up?” She was referring to Queen Liliuokalani who was the first wahine warrior. She

asked us how many have toured Iolani Palace? Princes referred to the movie Princess Kaiulani who lived from 1879-1899. Princes was in Toastmasters on Maui and did prison work and connected with women warriors for five years. She has since connected with Jeff Beard on Oahu so she can help women prisoners here. Her mentor Rose has agreed to go with her.

4. Table Topics Master: Joyce Bullion, CC, CL stayed with the theme of “National Dolphin Day” and called on volunteers. There are three types of dolphins in the Hawaiian Islands-bottlenose in deep waters and in small pods, spinner dolphins that swim in large pods near the shore and the spotted dolphins who look like spinners except they have a white tip on their beaks. The first drafted Volunteer was our honored guest Frank DeGracia.

- **Speaker #1:** Frank DeGracia’s question was “what type of dolphin would you like to be?” Frank said he would like to be a bottlenose dolphin. He chose this because of the sense of community you feel when you see them swimming behind or in the wake of your vessel.
- **Speaker #2:** Honored guest, Francia Birulin, was the next volunteer. Joyce mentioned that there are many undocumented stories about Dolphins who have saved sailors and protected people from sharks. If you could create a legend what would it be? Francia told about the features of dolphins. They smile and are joyful, intelligent and happy. They have a knowledge of other species. They have not disrupted our lives, but we have disrupted their lives and their environment.
- **Speaker #3:** James Fu, ACB, ALB, volunteered to answer the third question. Where is your favorite place in the islands to see dolphins? James answered Manele Bay off

Lanai is his favorite place. The dolphins stand out in the unrippled, crystal clear waters when he takes the shuttle boat from Maui.

5.Evaluation Session:

- **Evaluator for Speaker #1:** Jerome Ababa, CC evaluated Eddie Joseph, DTM. Jerome said Eddie is a seasoned speaker and he did well. He used the entire speaker area and had effective body gestures. Eddie is a pro and Jerome could not think of suggestions for Eddie to improve on. We look forward to Part 2 and sit in suspense...
- **Evaluator for Speaker #2:** Rose Martinez, ACS, ALB evaluated Kiku Rees, TM. Rose Mentioned that Kiku's speech was great and she focused on man's relationship to the turtle. She showcased how the turtles lift us up and inspire us. Kiku's speech was informative and educational. She projected sincerity and passion. She did not use notes nor did she display nervousness. Suggestions were for Kiku to use better visual aids like power point so we could see it better.
- **Evaluator for Speaker #3:** Owen Tamamoto, ACB, ALB evaluated Princeslehuanani. Owen gave kudos for the organized speech and for the amount of preparation that went into it. Her transitions were smooth. He suggested that she could have shared an actual experience of one of the prisoners showcasing exactly how they benefited from the visits from Toastmasters.

6.Reports:

- **Timekeeper:** Sara gave a thorough accounting of each person's time.

- **Grammarian/Ah Counter:** Holly gave a thorough accounting of each person's use of word fillers, grammar and use of the word-of-the-day.

TMOD Closing remarks: Lani Abrigana. ACB, CL gave final remarks. Lani had done research on today's theme throughout the meeting. She ended with expressing her concerns about dolphins in captivity.

Action You Can Take:

- Don't buy a ticket to a dolphin show, like SeaWorld. Here on Oahu we have: Sea Life Park, the Kahala Hotel; swim-with-the dolphin boat rides.
- Sign dolphin project petitions. [dolphinsproject.net]
- Educate your family and friends by hosting movie night at your house:
 - *Blackfish*, the movie about the orca called Tilikum.
 - *The Cove*, a documentary about the yearly seahunt where dolphins are driven into a small cove and netted. The most attractive dolphins are resold to aquariums and marine parks for \$150,000 each. Others are killed and their meat is sold for consumption despite its toxic levels of mercury.
- Donate to causes such as The Dolphin Project to stop their exploitation and slaughter.
- Share on social media.

7. General Evaluator: James Fu, ACB, ALB gave us a glowing report:

- Kudos to us for filling all roles.
- Room was set up by 11:45AM-Thanks to Jerome.
- Guests were warmly welcomed.
- Lani did an excellent job as TMOD and had researched today's theme.
- The Table topics were excellent as were the speakers.
- Grammarian was thorough.
- Great speeches.
- Evaluations were effective.

8. Announcements/Adjournment:

- James reminded us that tomorrow is the last day to sign up for the Spring Conference at the discounted amount. He asked us to come out and support Owen! The conference is May 13 and May 14. See KTM website for additional Information.
- We will have officer elections the first meeting in May.
- Holly gave awards for the membership Drive last month.
 - James received the highest award which was a \$25 gift card to Aloha Salads in Kapolei.
 - Owen received the next award of Toastmaster pen and pencil.
 - Eddie won a Toastmaster notebook and pen.
- Meeting adjourned about 1:05PM.