

MARCH

2017

APRIL



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Aloha Everyone – The last two busy and productive months have offered the opportunity for the Friends to be actively involved in working to ban the use of reef-toxic sunscreens and sunblock in Hawaii.

The short documentary “Reefs at Risk” in which Bob Kern and I appeared has been accepted to be shown at the Hawaii International Film Festival in conjunction with “Chasing Coral” on Sunday, April 9 at 7:30 at the Dole Cannery theatre. “Reefs at Risk” was created by Fagan Films, LLC and discusses the dangers to our reefs from sunscreens and other personal care products containing oxybenzone. Ticket information can be found at

<https://program.hiff.org/product/reefs-at-risk/>

On the legislative front, thank you to everyone who provided testimony supporting SB1150 which deals with banning the use or sale of sunscreens containing oxybenzone. The bill now provides for a study of the effects of oxybenzone on coral. We hope the study will lend support to banning the use of sunscreens with oxybenzone. The bill next goes to Conference Committee for final draft.

The link below is an excellent distillation of the extensive scientific data and studies that demonstrate the dangerous effects of oxybenzone on our fragile coral reef environments as background to SB1150, presented on "Hawaii is my Mainland" and featuring Dr. Bob Richardson from UH.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gVhSefic0Vw>

[City Council Resolution 17-62 urges the Mayor to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Hanauma Bay as Hawaii's first Marine Life Conservation District. We will let you know the date / time of the festivities.](#)

We are very pleased to be partnering with Kaiser High School's Wipe Out Crew (WOC) to conduct our quarterly clean ups of the nature preserve and to promote education about reef toxic sunscreens.

Schedule of Events

2017 CLEANUPS

Saturday, June 3
Saturday, September 2
Saturday, December 2

FOHB Board Meetings
Third Thursday of the Month

April 20, 2017 at Hanauma Bay

Location of Future Meetings TBA
May 18, 2017
June 15, 2017
July 20, 2017

HBEP THURSDAY EVENING EDUCATION PROGRAM

**APRIL 6 – FILM – Humpback Whales
Hosted at NOAA Inouye Regional
Center**

**APRIL 13 – You Are What You Eat:
Studying the Diet and Plastic
Ingestion of Hawaiian Seabirds**

April 20 – Seabird Medley

**April 27 – Pi'i ka Lewa: The Cultural
Uses of Hawaiian Seabirds and the
Migratory Bird Treaty Act**

**May 4 – Deep Sea Discoveries in
the Expanded Waters of
Papahānaumokuākea**

**May – 11 – 75 Years Later: What
Remains of the Sea Floor at Midway**

2017 FOHB Board

Lisa Bishop, President
Bob Kern, Vice President
Micki Stash, Secretary
Sid McWhirter
Steve Oppenheimer
Ron Bregman
Dick Baker, Emeritus

E-mails

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SNAIL MAIL ADDRESS

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Joke of the Month

The Beatles Sang Two Songs
About Octopi, "An Octopus's
Garden" and

"I Wanna Hold Your Hand Hand
Hand Hand Hand Hand Hand
Hand ..."

The WOC did an excellent job helping to organize our successful cleanup on March 4th as well as providing marine debris and sunscreen outreach to our one hundred volunteers.

Thank You WOC !



The Friends will be presenting two awards for marine related research at the Hawaii State Science and Engineering Fair on 12 April 2017. We will also be participating in Kaiser High School's Earthfest on 21 April and the Honolulu Aquarium's Mauka to Makai Event on 22 April 2017. These are all great opportunities to meet our friends, neighbors and future scientists, so we hope you can join us at these events.

Thank you to everyone who provided testimony at DPR's public hearing on the sale and distribution of expressive materials at City parks and Hanauma Bay on 22 Feb 2017. We have not received any update on DPR's final revisions to these administrative rules.

We continue to work with the City to resolve our concerns over its management of the Hanauma Bay Fund and the commencement of the first Carrying Capacity Study of Hanauma Bay in 16 years. The last update we had from DPR was that they were working on the language to make the studies annual requirements per DLNR's 2001 Conservation District Use Permit, but still have no start date for the study.

It's Not a Park ... It's a Nature Preserve

PICTURE THIS ...

Several years ago, the Friends were gifted with a beautiful painting of Hawaiian marine life by artist Debbie Chow. We are pleased to announce that the painting is now on loan to Representative Gene Ward and is proudly displayed in his office, Room 318 at the Capitol Building. Thank you Representative Ward for your consistent support of the Friends and our commitment to protect and preserve Hanauma Bay.



It's Not a Park ... It's a Nature Preserve

CLEAN UP

Our March clean up was another booming success. We've been working with the Kaiser High School Wipeout Crew to help them gain experience organizing community events. Boy, Did They Organize! The Crew set up, manned the desk, handled the paperwork, gave the orientation and assignments. We are very proud of their dedication and commitment to the Bay and the environment and look forward to working with them in the future.

Clean Up Veterans from Canon USA again took part.



Also participating in the March 4th cleanup were Kaiser High School Leo Club, Hawaii Baptist Academy, St. Joseph School, Mililani Iki Elementary School, Mililani Middle School, St. Louis School, East End Shorecasters, Kapolei High School and several individuals and families who care for our environment. We also had a number of "walk ins" who asked what we were up to and offered to help. Now THAT's community minded.

THANK YOU ALL

STILL NEED HELP

Many thanks to Friends members Chuck and Helene Lileikis for donating their time to help with the upcoming science fair. We continue to seek volunteers to help us with a myriad of activities we're involved in from organizing community events and refurbishing our website and social media page.

Any time and assistance you can offer is appreciated. If you can help, please contact

Lisa - president@friendsofhanauabay.org

Bob - vicepresident@friendsofhanauabay.org

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MORE ON SUNSCREEN

A research project was conducted at Hanauma Bay to determine the presence of oxybenzone. The study was done by Honour Booth and Mackenzie Manning of UH and KCC. We will let you know the results when they are published.

Several sources report that scientists believe a dangerous level of oxybenzone contamination to coral is about 62 parts per trillion. Studies around O'ahu reveal Waikiki, 11,300 ppt, Ala Moana 230 ppt, KoOlina 568 ppt and Waimea Bay 4,780 ppt. As we reported in our January / February newsletter (see our website) it is estimated that about two tons of oxybenzone could be going into the Bay every year. We hope results from Hanauma Bay are will be lower but with all those folks using sunscreen every day ...

We have encouraged DPR to provide education to Hanauma Bay visitors about the hazards of oxybenzone for coral but to date only three small signs have been placed where most visitors will not see them. We continue to encourage DPR to immediately instruct HBEP to launch an effective sunscreen education effort at the Bay or at least place large signs on the admission line before visitors enter the education center so they have a chance to stop by the gift shop that now carries only non oxybenzone products. The Friends are willing and able to help with this.

Two Small Signs at Repeat Visitor Station



One Small Sign at Beach Desk



We banded together to fight off a serious commercial threat to the Bay. We need to do so again to get effective sunscreen education at the Bay by writing letters, sending emails to DPR, DLNR your City and State elected officials and the media until adequate sunscreen information is provided at the nature preserve. if you prefer, send your letters and emails to us and we'll forward them.

Lets Get Effective Sunscreen Education at the Bay !
IF YOU CAN'T SAY IT, DON'T SPRAY IT

It's Not a Park ... It's a Nature Preserve

HANAUMA BLOG SPOT – Larry Winnik

Price Waterhouse awarded me a Foscar (Fish Oscar) for the best supporting fish in a Marine Life Conservation District. They took it away two minutes into my acceptance speech claiming there was a mistake. Seems the real winner was a Bluefin Trevally. Geez, fame IS fleeting! Sigh!



CONTACT US

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