

MAY

2017

JUNE



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Aloha Everyone,

I am pleased to announce that the City has agreed to conduct an independent audit of the Hanauma Bay Fund to address our concerns that the Fund has been, and is still being used in ways that violate the Federal Court orders governing Fund expenditures. We are pleased, as well, that the City has agreed that the Friends will participate in selection of the independent auditor, in determining the scope of the audit, and in efforts to make sure the auditor understands and responds to our concerns. We welcome this opportunity and look forward to working collaboratively with the City and the auditor to resolve these long standing issues once and for all in a manner that everyone acknowledges as well-grounded in fact and law.

Additionally, we were informed yesterday that the City/State indemnification issues have been resolved so UH can commence the first Carrying Capacity Study of Hanauma Bay in sixteen years, and that this study will be conducted on an annual basis from now on per DLNR's 2001 Conservation District Use Permit. We look forward to the integration of recommendations from these studies into improved conservation and preservation protocols at the Bay.

This is even more important since a recently published study of the effects of the third global bleaching event from 2014 – 2016 has determined that 47% of reef flat corals at the Bay bleached and 9.8% of Hanauma Bay corals died during these bleaching events. For more information, go to these web sites,

<https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.3355>

[www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/05/170530082045.htm](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/05/170530082045.htm)

We would like to thank the City Council, as well, for exempting

## Schedule of Events

### 2017 CLEANUPS

**Saturday, September 2**

**Saturday, December 2**

### FOHB BOARD MEETINGS

#### THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

**June 15**

**July 20**

**Aug 17**

**5:30 – 7:00 PM**

**HANAUMA BAY EDUCATION  
ALCOVE**

### SEMINAR

**State Capitol Room 229**

**Wednesday June 21 – 10:30 - Noon**

**Dr. Craig Downs - "Sunscreen  
Pollution and Hawaii's Coral Reefs:  
the Science and Options for  
Mitigation"**

### HBEP THURSDAY EVENING EDUCATION PROGRAM

**June 15 – Swimming on the dock of  
the bay: higher tides and nuisance  
flooding in Hawaii**

**June 22 – Surging seas and shifting  
shorelines**

**June 29 – Splish, Splash, Science !  
Keeping an eye on near shore  
water quality**

## 2017 FOHB Board

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

### E-mails

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### SNAIL MAIL ADDRESS

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Honolulu, Hawaii 96825-0761

### JOKE OF THE MONTH

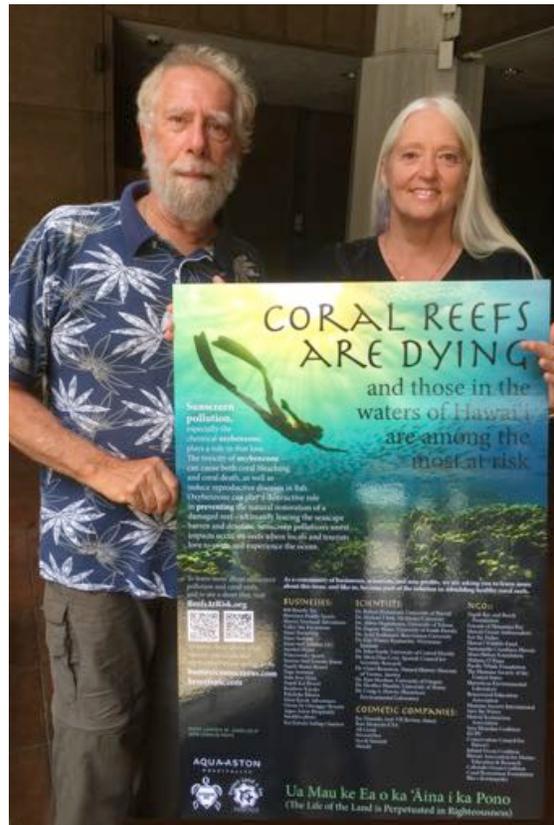
What Did the Magician Say to the Fisherman?

Pick a Cod, Any Cod .....

Hanauma Bay from the private sponsorship provisions of Bill 78 (see legislative update on the bottom of page 5) and we thank our members for working to try to pass oxybenzone legislation during the 2017 legislative season. (see legislative update on the top of page 5). This issue is far from over and will be taken up again by the legislature in 2018.

A hui ho kakou

Lisa Bishop, President  
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[lisa.fohb@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.fohb@gmail.com)



PSA

This public service announcement (without Bob & Lisa) was placed in the Washington Post and has been seen worldwide. Enlarge the picture and look on the bottom right column to see who the 2<sup>nd</sup> NGO signatory is. It's the Friends of Hanauma Bay!

Cool ...

Speaking of Sunscreen

Dr. Craig Downs, a leading researcher in harmful sunscreen chemicals will be giving a presentation at the State Capitol on Wednesday, June 21 from 10:30 - Noon

ALERT ...

We have heard Roberts Hawaii is continuing to pursue its transportation plan for Hanauma Bay. We don't have a lot of details at this time but are working to find out what they're up to. We'll keep you posted.

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

## MAUKA TO MAKAI

Friends' Board members Lisa, Bob and Steve participated in the Honolulu Aquarium Mauka to Makai event and talked with lots of people about Hanauma Bay and sunscreen pollution. Many people we met knew very little about either and many residents said they'd like to return to the Bay but don't go there any more because it is so crowded. We'll have to work on that .....



Event organizers reported that more than 4,000 people attended including at the top left Aquarium Director Dr. Andrew Rossiter with Bob and Lisa. But who's the guy on the left with his arms around Anke and Lisa?

Well it's the Mayor, of course, visiting the Friends tent and learning a thing or two from Lisa (top right). Thank you, Mr. Mayor for the kudos you gave us for educating the public about our oceans.

WE WON'T LET IT GO TO OUR HEADS ...

Last month we reported that a documentary about sunscreen pollution had been made in which Lisa and Bob appeared. That video can be seen [at](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=28qWIPeOkvl>

The documentary will be shown at the Maui Film Festival June 21 – 25 (check their website for the date / time) and, hopefully at Sundance Film Festival in January 2018.

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## SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

Fostering future scientists, the Friends again participated in the Hawaii State Science and Engineering Fair judging a wide variety of projects by students from across the Islands. Thanks to Chuck and Helene for being judges and encouraging kids to excel.



AND THE WINNERS ARE ...

Junior Winners and their Teacher  
From Kaimuki Middle School  
Ms. Elizabeth Mahi  
Monica May  
Ariel Tisthammer  
Alana Nakafuji

Senior Winner from Mililani High School  
Seaenna Correa-Garcia

CONGRATULATIONS  
NICE WORK TO YOU ALL

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

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – SUNSCREEN

After many meetings and much time spent involved in the complicated process of creating new laws, and in the face of evidence that oxybenzone kills coral, the legislature failed to pass any sunscreen legislation this session.

Fourteen bills entered the competition. The bill offered by Senator Espero and preferred by most advocates for the ocean and the only one that would have been effective, banned the sale of products containing oxybenzone. The final bill that was considered made it illegal to use products with oxybenzone on beaches and in the water. The bill probably failed, according to one legislator, due to legitimate concerns about enforcement and a very strong cosmetics industry lobby that has established relationships with legislators.

While it is a great disappointment that no legislation passed, we are heartened by all the attention the matter received and will surely receive again next legislative session.

MOST IMPORTANTLY – This disappointment in NO WAY diminishes the importance of providing sunscreen education. More and more research proves the damaging effects of oxybenzone on coral and the need to get the word out – especially at Hanauma Bay where a proactive sunscreen education program should be developed.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE -- SPONSORSHIP OF OUR PARKS

On April 26<sup>th</sup> the City Council passed Bill 78 that authorizes the City to establish a process to obtain sponsorships for city facilities, including parks. You can see the bill at,

[http://www4.honolulu.gov/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document193344/DOC007%20\(15\).PDF](http://www4.honolulu.gov/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document193344/DOC007%20(15).PDF)

We learned of Bill 78 only a few days before the Council vote and became concerned that if Bill 78 passed, the nature preserve would be an easy target for commercial enterprises wanting to advertise to the thousands of visitors each day and might detract from educational signs and information. So we sprang into action .....

As a result of our advocacy, Hanauma Bay has been excluded from the requirements of Bill 78. With great thanks to Councilmember Kobayashi and Councilmember Pine for adding the amendment to exclude the Bay and to the entire City Council for recognizing the unique and special nature of Hanauma Bay by exempting and protecting the nature preserve from requirements of the new law.

As a result of problems identified by individuals and groups who opposed bill 78, the Council is considering Bill 49 that amends certain sections of bill 78. Not to worry ... The section exempting the nature preserve is not being amended. You can see bill 49 at,

[http://www4.honolulu.gov/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-193700/DOC007%20\(32\).PDF](http://www4.honolulu.gov/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-193700/DOC007%20(32).PDF)

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

HANAUMA BLOG SPOT  
Larry Winnik

An Unusual visitor to the Bay Making the Rounds in the Shallows Near the Information Booth.



CONTACT US

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