



President's Report

I hope everyone is enjoying the fall season despite all the rain and have had a chance to visit Hanauma Bay to take in the beauty of our precious natural resource. Now is an excellent time to visit the Bay with the smaller crowds.

On the financial front, we continue to find improper uses of the Hanauma Bay fund. We've learned that since about 2004 rent for the Caretaker's House was being paid into the General Fund when it should have been going to the Bay's fund. Budget and Fiscal Services has corrected this but there has been no indication that the misdirected money will be repaid.

Friends Vice President Bob Kern and myself participated with Rep. Gene Ward in a question and answer session on Olelo. Check your TV listings for the program, "A Word With Ward."

The Board of Directors unanimously supported the Ka'iwi Coast Preservation efforts by donating \$3,500.00 to the cause. \$1,000.00 was from our treasury and \$2,500.00 on behalf of the Nancy Inouye Memorial Fund.

Last year the Friends suggested that the City create an Advisory Board to oversee and provide direction to the City on the future of Hanauma Bay. We recommended that the board have decision-making authority but as established, it is advisory only. Our representative on the board is Micki Stash. We were dismayed to learn that the Advisory Board voted to keep their meetings closed to the public. With long standing concerns about transparency this decision reinforces the perception of secrecy and mistrust that has long plagued the City. We encourage the Advisory Board to reverse their decision.

DPR Director Michele Nekota updated the committee expected completion dates for of the lights (Sept. 2016) and air conditioning (Feb 2017). For More on the Lights See Page 3

Schedule of Events

CLEAN UPS

Saturday, November 14, 2015

Saturday, February 13, 2016

Saturday, May 14, 2016

Saturday, August 13, 2016

Saturday, November 12, 2016

Our Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 21 at 6:00 pm

Please email

vicepresident@friendsofhanauabay.org

for location of the meeting

HBEP SUNDAY EDUCATION PROGRAM

Oct 4 – "Risk & Reward: Field camp tales of the hazards and triumphs encountered in NWHI monk seal research

Oct 11 – Conservation Drones: How unmanned aerial systems are helping to understand and protect marine mammals

Oct 18 - #Monk Seal" Social media and how its helping monk seal conservation

Oct 26 – Monk Seal Whispering: Using Behavioral Conditions to train endangered animals to avoid dangerous situations.

November 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

The program in November will feature THREE speakers each Sunday! We don't have room to post them all here but you can see 'Sunday's at the Bay' November's line up on our website

www.friendsofhanauabay.org

2015 FOHB Board

Sid McWhirter, President
Bob Kern, Vice President
Micki Stash, Secretary
Lisa Bishop, Treasurer
Pam Weiant
Lucas Myers
Geoffrey Johnson
Dick Baker, Emeritus

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PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW MAILING ADDRESS

Friends of Hanauma Bay
PO Box 25761
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825-0761

How Many Ticks Does it Take to Make an Octopus Laugh.

10 (think about it)

10 Ticks ...

PRESIDENTS REPORT (continued)

We understand the Carrying Capacity study is in the works but do not yet know when it will commence.

Perhaps of greatest importance, the first draft of the script for the new orientation video was presented to the Advisory Board for their comments and suggestions. Through our representative on the Advisory Board, Friends Board members have the opportunity for input. We hope the Advisory Board will seek comments from Bay staff and volunteers, as well.

We continue to be extremely concerned with the continuing deterioration of the facilities at Hanauma Bay. Considering routine and unexpected maintenance needs at the Bay, we cannot understand why maintenance staff is sent to work at other parks while the nature preserve is ignored. In spite of our best efforts, it seems the City insists on treating the nature preserve as if it were just like any other park. We will continue our efforts to educate the City, the Parks Department and the public about the uniqueness of the nature preserve and work towards it being properly cared for.

Sid McWhirter
President

CLEAN UP

Our Clean Up Schedule is Listed on Page 1. We Want to Thank Kaipo and the Rest of the Management Team at the Bay For Making Our Planning Efforts a Lot Easier by Including All 2016 Clean Up Dates on the Permit.

ANNUAL MEETING / DINNER

Once Again Our Annual Meeting / Dinner Will Be Held at the O'ahu Club. We Are Pleased to Announce Our Guest Speaker is Frazer McGilvary, Executive Director of Malama Maunaloa.

The Date, Wednesday, December 9 the time to be announced. Watch for Your Invitations.

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

FISHING CLUB

As many of you know, fishing clubs have been allowed to access the trail above the Bay and fish from Pi'olu'olu point. After twenty years, the City has taken away their privilege, not because they have done anything wrong, indeed, they have upheld their Agreement with the City, maintaining the environment and participating in cleanups. They have informed Bay staff of potential violations and watched after the safety of ocean users and hikers. We are uncertain why the City has decided to discontinue their Agreement with the fishing club but it does seem that they are discounting the fact that much good has been done by the club and would continue to be done if the Agreement was renewed.



LIGHTS

The Parks Department reports that new lights in the parking lot are now anticipated to be installed and working by September 1, 2016.

Recalling the history of the repair, the lights were known to be out for about two years but nothing was done to repair them. All the while the Thursday evening education program thrived. No one considered the darkened parking lot to be a hazard. Only when we encouraged the Parks Department to repair the lights by pointing out that they might be a hazard did they become a hazard and the Thursday evening program was changed to Sunday afternoon when the program has not been nearly as well attended.

The new system will light only part of the lot and will consist of four LED lights on concrete poles with underground electrical wires. Installation will require digging up the parking lot that was recently repaved. Last year the Friends recommended that the lights be replaced with solar, more appropriate for a Nature Preserve, and less expensive in the long run. Our research found environmentally appropriate lights that had been installed at Kapolei Middle School that could be installed at the Bay for about \$200,000, a drop in the bucket of the Hanauma Bay Fund.

We assume that once the lights are fixed the Thursday evening education program will be reinstated. If the proposed schedule is met, it will have been, in our opinion, two years too long away from Thursday nights.

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

BURYING YOURSELF IN YOUR WORK

We thank Drew Speelhofer for his dedication to Hanauma Bay by crawling into the naupaka to pick up trash. Dedication such as his and many others who participate in cleanups and other activities that enhance the beauty and preservation of the Nature Preserve set the example for how everyone who has any responsibility for Hanauma Bay should care for it.



CONTACT US

For General Information, Comments or Suggestions info@friendsofhanaumabay.org

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Or visit our web site friendsofhanaumabay.org

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