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KokoHeadLiner

Newsletter



**Maunalua Triangle/KokoKai Community Association
P.O. Box 25103, Honolulu, HI 96825**

Spring 2011

President's Message

Aloha!

"The best reason to do the right thing today is tomorrow."

Earthquakes, Flooding, Tsunamis, Radiation, Thunder and Wind Storms, Snow and Ice in April...not to mention uprisings all over Egypt and the Middle East...what is going on? Environmentalists are saying that this is what we get for not taking care of the planet. Christians are waiting for the rapture and doomsdayers are thinking that they were right all the time and we are going to end up blowing ourselves up!

The reality is that we are worried about the same things today that we were worried about when I was just a kid. I remember going to church with my grandma and they were saying that we were going to be taken any day now, then the next week my parents wanted my brother and I to dig a 'fallout shelter' under our patio! Honestly, I don't remember much about environmentalists. I don't know — maybe most of today's environmentalists were still in diapers, starting grade school or at best beginning puberty.

So what does this have to do with our neighborhood? It is just a reminder that we are all in this together, and we need to start talking to each other and discussing our current situations and come up with an action plan with one another in mind. Does this sound out of reach? Not really. We don't have to come up with a way to put "the genie back in the bottle," but we can help protect and preserve one another. We all need to know our neighbors' phone numbers and, more importantly, our neighbors with special needs. We want to show them that they are important to our neighborhood and that we will watch out for them.

I have gone over this before but thought it would be appropriate to go over the basics again. So please check out **Tsunami Basics** elsewhere in the newsletter. We want to make sure that we have enough food and water for a week (per person), just for that "What If" day. We all saw how important it was to have candles and flashlights (with fresh batteries) when the power went out. Imagine if we couldn't just go down to the store and stock up every day!

Oh, and as I mentioned at the annual meeting, be sure to cycle your food that you have put aside every two years. I recently restocked my entire inventory, and took what I had to the Food Bank and let them sort through the cans and use anything they could.

Other things that you may want to know — How about your pet? Or what if you are in your car and away from home? Do you have a family contact plan or meeting place? There is a great deal of information on the websites and it is worth going over them. If you don't have a computer, you are still in good shape because at the front of the Yellow Book there is a lot of information for you and maps too!

Ok, good, so now we are all going to help one another when trouble comes and we are finally going to meet the neighbor two or three doors down who has lived there for years and exchange phone numbers. If you don't have a good opening line, tell them that 'Edgar' suggested it in case of emergency and assure them you won't be calling to borrow a cup of sugar (unless you are my neighbor, in that case come on over!)

We do want to be on our guard for suspicious characters casing the neighborhood. I always get a bit edgy watching some of the guys cruising in big white trucks and vans driving slowly in the neighborhood, looking for an opportunity; or the kids walking a little bit too slow for comfort. I drive around the neighborhood more than most keeping my mind on what is happening and I must admit, the more you are aware the more you will see. Many of our neighbors seem to be driving through the area as if on another planet! Let's slow down and keep our eyes out.

We did have several homes that were broken into and an auto accident right in front of Mike Ishii's house on Poipu, where the plastic child stands patiently asking us to slow down.

As far as the neighborhood goes, we still have plenty of cats darting around at night and too much dog poop left for others to admire, but if these are the worst things happening then we are very lucky!

Here come the spring South Swells and warm summer nights...enjoy! And, thank you in advance for slowing down while driving in the neighborhood.

God Bless,

Edgar

Annual Meeting Highlights: Approximately 60 community members attended our Annual Meeting March 19 and enjoyed a great breakfast provided by the Hospitality Committee. Here are just a few of the highlights:

We began the meeting by celebrating Bruce Kuwana, our retiring postal carrier. (See separate story.)

For the third year in a row, there were no new volunteers to serve as Officers and Directors. The Association unanimously re-elected the current board to serve another term and the board agreed to serve. VOLUNTEERS STILL WELCOME!

Treasurer's report:

Beginning balance 3/1/10	\$23,084.95
Balance as of 3/1/11	\$26,014.22

One hundred fifty-three members paid dues in the past year, which is slightly down from the prior year's paid membership of 165. Major expenses for the year were insurance and printing and postage for the newsletter.

Architectural Standards: The committee has reviewed 12 sets of plans over the last year, which is about the same as the number submitted last year, but approximately 50% of the normal pace. Nine plans have been approved, and three were not, pending revisions. Paul encouraged people to submit their plans and reminded the residents that the committee has a good track record for timely decisions. Review won't hold up construction, unless the plans do not comply with the deed restrictions and guidelines.

Deeds and Compliance: Edgar thanked Sumner Howard who has agreed to join Edgar (previously a committee of one) on this committee. **The frequency and nature of complaints remain constant. What people care most about are overgrown landscaping and speeding.**

Mobile Patrol: Several members retired this year and Mobile Patrol needs people who will take an hour or so a week to drive the neighborhood. Just call Edgar and obtain your magnetic sign for drive-arounds.

Hospitality: The committee hosted two events to welcome new homeowners and asked for volunteers to host similar events. Karen also reminded residents that the Dog Owners' Group has been effective in connecting several dogs with their missing owners. The group issues alerts about potential stray dogs or threats from loose dogs in the neighborhood. **To receive the alerts, contact Karen either at 395-7833 or via email: karenwalsh@hawaiiantel.net.**

Newsletter: Darci Mead, Marie Winner, Pat Marrack, Carolyn Arnold, and Jennifer Taylor are beginning their fourth year on this committee. The newsletter was published four times last year and will be published 4 times in 2011.

New business:

The number of feral cats seemed to be increasing in the neighborhood. Neighbors were reminded that the Humane Society does have a trap, catch and release program and will provide traps for a refundable deposit. They'll sterilize the cats at no charge and microchip them for a \$5 donation. **Please note: the Humane Society is currently euthanizing any cats brought in at this time due to the volume of pets awaiting placement.**

Edgar announced that the board will look into placing a decorative low rock sign at the median opposite Koko Head elementary school in 2011.

Guest Speakers:

Rebecca Soon, assistant to city council member , Stanley Chang, and a member of our association, briefly discussed issues that affect our neighborhood. Stanley's office is focusing on a humane method of catching the chickens that are in the park area off Keahole Drive. The councilman has created a committee to evaluate what can be done about the blighted properties along Kahala Avenue and one to look at reopening the beach access off Hanapepe.

Hanni Hartman asked Rebecca about Stanley's position on Bill 47, to end the tipping discounts that the city gives to Schnitzer Steel and Rebecca was aware of the issue. Hanni is seeking support for Bill 47.

Andrew Laurence of Malama Maunalua, updated us on progress in restoring Maunalua Bay. **In the last year, Malama Maunalua and The Nature Conservancy, led a project funded by NOAA, which removed 3 million pounds of invasive alien algae (mudweed) from the Bay and (as of April) has cleared 27 acres.** In 2011, Malama Maunalua will focus on extending and maintaining the cleared areas, seek grants to undertake another large-scale mudweed removal, work with agencies on the major improvements needed on the land and with the community to implement *Every Drop Counts*. **For more information, go to www.malamamaunalua.org**

Resident **Terry Bosgra** reminded residents to participate in his recycling program to benefit Global Hope Network. He and Pamela match all funds received from recycling donations. **Terry and Pamela can take: glass beer, liquor or wine bottles, plastic bottles and aluminum cans. Donations (in bags) can be dropped at the driveway at 94 Makaweli Street.**

Celebrating Bruce . . .



For the past 27 years, Bruce Kuwana has served our Hawaii Kai community. On March 19th at the MTKCA Annual Meeting, we got the chance to show our appreciation. A highly surprised Bruce was celebrated with lei, a cake, a gift certificate to Roy's, and all our good wishes.

Bruce's friendly face and warm smile will be greatly missed.

FOR SALE

BABY GRAND YOUNG CHANG PIANO FOR SALE. WALNUT FINISH WITH BENCH TO MATCH. EXCELLENT CONDITION, BEAUTIFUL TONE. Call: 395-4393

COLLECTORS CHRISTMAS VILLAGE. THESE PORCELAIN HOUSES SHOW OFF BEAUTIFULLY AT HOLIDAY TIME ; PHONE 395-4393

Save the Date:

SATURDAY, MAY 14: Maunalua Bay Heritage Festival. Kalani High School Grounds. 10 AM—2 PM.

Malama Maunalua is celebrating the success of The Great Huki with a festival honoring Maunalua Bay — Come enjoy music by Maunalua, dance by local halau, food from Kale and Whole Foods and "talk story". Visit the exhibits that feature the culture, history and conservation in Maunalua Bay.

SATURDAY, JULY 23 : Neighborhood Yard Sale !!!

Save the date and recycle. . .the more who participate, the greater the crowd and the bigger the sale. We'll be putting out signs and advertising. Just put out your collection of "TREASURES" to be recycled. Remember, crowds start arriving EARLY.

And TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20: Semi-Annual Meeting

If you missed the Annual Meeting —or just enjoyed it —

There will be a mid-year meeting at Koko Head Elementary at 7:00 in the evening. Hopefully, those of you who haven't been able to make Saturday meetings can join this one.

Neighborhood Watch

Two burglaries have been reported in the last month.

And we have a new HPD officer on the beat. So, if you see anything out of the ordinary, do not hesitate to call 911.

**MTKK Community Association
Roster of Officers & Committees—2011/2012**

President Edgar Miner edgarminer@msn.com	Phone:	372-8599
Vice President Joan Nakamura hidojo@earthlink.net	Phone:	348-1310
Treasurer Paul White phwhite@pacbell.net (Chair, Architectural Standards)	Phone:	396-2172
Secretary Jennifer Taylor jennifertaylor_us@yahoo.com (Chair, Newsletter Committee)	Phone:	396-2172
Directors Pat Marrack pmarrack@hawaiiantel.net	Phone Fax:	395-2153 395-2153
Kurt Winner winnerm01@hawaii.rr.com	Phone	396-5136
Darci Mead hulahoop1@gmail.com	Phone	394-0421
Karen Walsh karenwalsh@hawaiiantel.net (Chair, Hospitality)	Phone:	395-7833



NANNI'S NOTES

Dear friends,
It's so great to see you when my brothers and I are walking our Mom and Dad, though my Dad wishes I wasn't so "verbal". Lately I've been getting treats when I'm quiet but sometimes I just can't help it.

We've noticed an increase in dog poop not being picked up. Did you know that, not only is it unsightly, and a health hazard, it's considered litter and the HPD can be called?

The dog owner can be fined up to 500 dollars. Please pick up after your dog. Mahalo.

Preventing Dog Bites

And get this — The Humane Society has a workshop called Mr. Bug's Dog Bite Prevention Program. It tells you what to do if you are chased or attacked by a dog, how to recognize the four major types of dog behavior and much more. It's not just for dog owners. I think anyone can benefit from it. We would set it up here (maybe KOKO Elementary school).

If you are interested, just e-mail my Mom,

@ karenwalsh@hawaiiantel.net.

Hope to be hearing from you!
Nanni



MTKC T-Shirts will soon be available for dues-paying members of the Association. We'll let you know as soon as they are available.

Volunteers Needed

The Community Association Needs You

Once again, we're asking you to give a few hours a month to the community in which we live.

Volunteer to be part of the Mobile Patrol. Or participate in the Board meetings with the intention of volunteering to join the Board or serve as an officer.

Give of your great ideas or articles for the Newsletter.

There are so many ways you can give a little of your time and just possibly have a good time in the giving!

Contact any of your board members if you'd like to help.

DID YOU KNOW? HPD HAS LAUNCHED CRIME MAPPING TECHNOLOGY

HPD introduced a crime-mapping application on its web site at the end of 2010. The site allows the public to view five different property crimes (burglaries, thefts, car thefts, car break-ins, and graffiti) in the vicinity of any Oahu address. Viewers simply type in an address to see all incidents that have occurred within a 500-foot to two-mile radius in the last 90 days. They may also sign up for email alerts, print maps, and check other cities' crime mapping.

To view the site, go to honolulupd.org and click on Crime Mapping. The data reflected on the map is updated daily and based on initial calls for service.

- Crime mapping data that appears on the interactive crime map comes from HPD's from our Computer Aided Dispatch system.
- The locations shown are for the initial calls for service and may not be the location of the actual crime.

The data is subject to change without notice.

TSUNAMI BASICS

For in-depth information, please visit the Oahu Civil Defense Agency at www.honolulu.gov/.../oahucivildefenseagency. Check a recent phone book to understand how close you are to a tsunami zone.

Know the height of your street above sea level and the distance of your street from the coast or other high-risk waters. Evacuation orders may be based on these numbers.

Plan evacuation routes from your home - you should be able to reach your safe location on foot within 15 minutes.

Remember the shelters are different for Tsunamis and Hurricanes:

Tsunami: Head to Kaiser High School. DO NOT go to Koko Head Elementary.

Hurricane: Koko Head Elementary

Prepare. Make a list of all the items you want to take with you—BEFORE— something happens.

Visit one of the web sites and stock up on all of the recommended supplies. If you don't use them in 12 months, THAT'S GREAT! Just re-stock and donate the old supplies to the Hawaii Food Bank.

State Information - <http://www.scd.hawaii.gov/preparedness.html>

City and County Info -<http://www1.honolulu.gov/dem/>

Food Suggestions - <http://www1.honolulu.gov/dem/57dayfoodlist8x14mar09pdf.pdf>

Mahalo to our 2011 – 12 Dues Paying Members

To everyone listed below, thank you for your support of the Maunalua Triangle/Koko Kai Community Association. Although we gladly accept your payment any time, please remember that annual dues are to be paid prior to the Annual Meeting , usually held mid to late March of every year. If we neglected to include you as "paid" or have misspelled your name, please let us know.

Mitsunari Akaki Tr.
Robert K. Andia
Mark & Carolyn Arnold
Keisuki & Keiko Asai
Gary E. Ashikawa
Don J. Bondarenko & Joan T. Nakamura
Terry & Pamela D. Bosgra, Tr.
Julian & Camille Bosgra
Robert E. L. & Charlene Bralver
Bryan J. & Laura E. Buck
Chelsea & Christine Chae
Wei-Chuan & Gloria Y. Chi
Clara Cook
Florence J. Curren, Tr.
Frederick & Cynthia Dell
Mark & Micky Desmarais
Vladimir & Natalie Ermakoff
David M. & Laurie M. Foster
Ian P. Griggs
Jason & Claudia Harris
Galen I. & Patricia F. Ho
Dorothea S. Hyde Tr.
Ivan L. & Kathleen Ishii
John & Carol Johnston

Shinjiro Kageyama, Tr.
Steven & Marilyn Katzman
Shizuya Kawamura
Michael K. Livingston
Clarence C. & Edna C. Maki
Chris and Andrea McKenzie
John J. & Bonnie A. McMahon
Scott H. & Darcine M. Mead
Karl & Christine M. Moskowitz
Kendall H. & Dawn M. Naya
Thanh T. & Quynh P. Nguyen
Fred M. & Ginger D. Noa
John D. Olkowski
Pacific Resources, Inc.
Wanda Parker
Richard C. & Beverly A. Page
Richard & Alease Palma
Ellsworth L. & Carla J. Peterson
Michael E. Pietzsch
Raynard C. Soon
Tomoko M. Stanyon, Tr.
Judith M. Sykes
Harry K. & Kyoko Takeshita
Suzanne M. Thatcher

Tutu Irrevocable Trust
Leslie A. Ueoka & Evan T. Morita
Gary T. Umeda & Audrey Kitagawa
David & Barbara Walker
Jerome & Karen Walsh
Dennis & Janet Watts
Alex & Naomi Weinstein
Paul H. White & Jennifer Taylor
Eugene N. Wong
Kiyomi & Emily Yamamoto
Stephen & Michiyo Zolner

Maunalua Triangle/Koko Kai Community Association Dues Notice:

Please add your name to the group by paying your dues. **Dues are \$50/year.** Please make checks payable to MTKK Community Association and mail to PO Box 25103, Honolulu, HI 96825.

NAME: _____

PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: Dick and Mimi Baker

Dick Baker is a retired U.S. Foreign Service Officer who joined the staff of the East-West Center in 1988, following a 20-year Foreign Service career. He retired from the Center in September 2008 after holding positions as a research fellow, interim director of the research program, and Special Assistant to East-West Center President Charles Morrison. He remains an Adjunct Senior Fellow in the office of the President. His Foreign Service assignments included Singapore, Indonesia, and Australia, as well as at the Department of State in Washington. He holds a Master of Public Affairs degree in International Relations from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University. His professional interests have covered U.S. foreign policy making, Asia Pacific regionalism, Southeast Asia (with a special focus on Indonesia), Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands. He was the principal editor of a three-volume study of US-Australia-New Zealand relations published during the 1990's and of *Indonesia: The Challenge of Change* (1999). From 2003, he coordinated the Center's Islamic Initiative.

Mimi started her career as a computer programmer in the Apollo program and then in unmanned spacecraft, including Hubble Space Telescope. Maintaining a technical career as a Foreign Service wife was difficult as she was pulled in and out of jobs in Washington D.C. Also as a Foreign Service wife, she helped start an international school in Surabaya, Indonesia, and taught science there for two years. Her Jakarta years were spent as a substitute teacher and then Assistant Manager in the Embassy Commissary. Australia allowed Mimi to take many free university-level classes as well as programming for the Math and Forestry Departments at the Australian National University. Mimi's first three years in Honolulu were spent unsuccessfully pursuing a Master's degree in Physical Oceanography. Following that, she worked at Walden books in Koko Marina until it closed in early 1998. Politics then occupied her through 2001, including working on redistricting. Mimi also took many courses at UH in Geography as well as being a docent at the Waikiki Aquarium and Hanauma Bay.

Dick and Mimi settled in the MTKK area shortly after coming to Honolulu, and have occupied two different houses in the area over their 23 years of residence in the community. This was the first real American community in which they had lived during their married lives, and Dick was quickly drawn into the world of the Community Association and other civic activities. Initially the assistant director of the newly-established Neighborhood Watch Program, he became, successively, director of the Watch, Board Member, Vice President and President of the Association. He also served as the area's elected representative on the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board through most of the 1990s. These were very active years for both the Association and the Neighborhood Board, with the Association facing a huge liability suit from a homeowner dissatisfied with a ruling by the Architectural Standards Committee, and the Neighborhood Board dealing with a revision of the City's Community Development Plan for the area and then the necessity of fighting off development efforts opposed by the majority of the community.

In the same period, Dick also served as President of the Friends of Hanauma Bay, and led the Friends' efforts to modify Mayor Jeremy Harris' proposal for a huge visitor's center complex at the Bay and in the adjacent Regional Park at Koko Crater. The eventual result was the largely successful and popular but unobtrusive Visitors' Center now at the Bay. Finally, Dick also played various roles in local politics during this time, including managing a winning campaign for a seat in the State House of Representatives.

Mimi worked with Dick in all these activities through the '90s, including serving as database manager for the Association and labeling many mailings of the Headliner.

Starting in 1999, Dick gradually reduced and then phased out his participation in these activities, to devote more time to his East-West Center job and to work on his and Mimi's new home on Lumahai Place. Since then he has been a supporter but not an active member of the Association and of other local causes.

The Association and related activities have a way of exercising a lasting hold on people. Mimi and Dick have been supporters of the Malama Maunalua movement for the last few years, and, as of this spring, Mimi has begun attending the regular meetings of the MTKC Association Board as a non-voting observer. And who knows where that will lead?? More fun, no doubt.