

# ENCHANTED LAKE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

## Newsletter

Fall 2009

### Don't miss out on a great dinner for \$10!

We're trying something different this year... The ELRA board wants to have at least one member of every lakefront home come to the ELRA Annual Meeting, so we've set the cost for the first dinner at the very affordable price of just \$10!

The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, September 26 at the Mid Pacific Country Club. No-host cocktails are at 5:30 pm and the delicious buffet dinner begins at 6:30 with the meeting to follow.

Your home is likely your biggest in-

vestment, and with lakefront homes, the condition of the lake has a big impact on the value of your home. The annual meeting is an opportunity for you learn more about current issues as well as plans to improve the lake. It is also your chance to let the ELRA board know what your concerns are.

Enchanted Lake is thought by many to be dangerously polluted... we've invited Dr. Clyde Tamaru, who has been doing lake water sampling, to tell us what he has found.

Councilman Ikaika Anderson will

also be discussing City initiatives that affect Enchanted Lake.

At press time only 20 out of a total of 250 lake households have committed to coming. It is important for all of us to stay connected to our Enchanted Lake community. Make your reservation today and please talk to your neighbors and encourage them to attend the annual meeting, too.

For reservations, call Margie Kennard at 263-3661, during daytime hours. We look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting!

### City Council Update

By Councilman Ikaika Anderson

Thank you to the ELRA for allowing me an opportunity to serve you and provide you with a brief update on some issues the Council is currently dealing with. As most of you know, the City Council recently passed its FY-2010 budget which included a property tax rate lower than what had originally been proposed by the Mayor. Although the tax rate is higher than last year's, the increase was kept in-line with the decrease in home values; meaning that most homeowners should see little change from last year's tax bills. But the issues around this year's budget were primarily centered around the City's financial situation next year which, regrettably, will far more difficult and probably require more cut-backs than simple hiring freezes. Where these cut-backs will be made and how they will affect us remains to be seen.

It is important to remember that the City does provide numerous property tax relief mechanisms for the elderly, disabled and those with fixed incomes. If you, or someone you know, need additional information on eligibility criteria or how to apply, please do not hesitate to contact my office. All applications are due by September 30th.

I'm sure that many of you are wondering what the City is doing to help improve the conditions of the waterways throughout Kailua and, in particular, the condition of Enchanted Lake.

Over the last several years, through the efforts of the late Councilmember Barbara Marshall, the City has been removing the overgrowth of mangrove along the City-owned waterways. While I would like to see the City undertake a routine mangrove removal program we have to see what kind of funding would be required. The recent mass-clearing projects have averaged \$100,000 per 1/2 mile. In the coming months I will be working with the department to see if we can devise a more cost-effective and efficient means of dealing with the mangrove. Keeping the waterways clear of mangrove and the debris which accumulate will certainly help to improve the overall flow and health of the connected waterways.

Similarly, I will be working with our congressional delegation to try and, again, secure monies for the dredging of Enchanted Lake. I cannot make any promises that the funds will be secured but if we are able to secure such funding every effort will be made, by my office, to see that the work is actually done. The reason the funds lapsed the last time round was due to the City's assertion that as Enchanted Lake is a private lake the owners should be responsible for any maintenance. Certainly this argument would be easier to stomach IF the City was being asked to expend its own monies. But as this was not the case, I still am at a loss as to why they



refused to issue a request for proposals (RFP) for the work. Nonetheless, I will keep the Enchanted Lake Community Association apprised of the situation as I we attempt to see this problem resolved.

Again, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve you and welcome any comments, suggestions or questions. Please do not hesitate to contact my office at anytime should need assistance. I have continued Barbara's tradition of holding monthly community meetings, known as 3Talk's, where you can meet face-to-face with my staff and I to discuss anything. Our next 3Talk is scheduled for August 18 at the Kaneohe Community Center, 45-613 Puohala St. I encourage you to attend!

# Sand Berm Opening at Kailua Beach

## Lake and Ocean Water Levels Following Tropical Storm Guilarmo

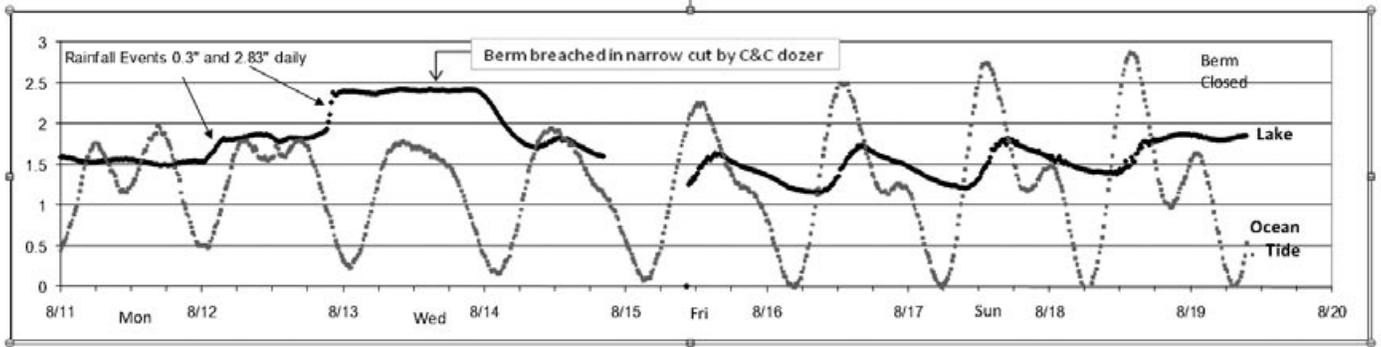
The elevation of the lake water and timing of the opening of the beach sand berm continues to be an important issue for lake residents. In August, with the approach of potential hurricane Guilermo, the C&C stationed a bulldozer at the stream mouth to avert the threat of floods and ELRA's Bob Bourke tied a water quality meter to one of the pilings of the Lanikai Bridge. The graph below plots the elevation of the ocean tides (gray) and the lake level

(black) over a 1-week time period.

Two small rainfall events on Monday and Tuesday raised the lake level to 2.4 feet and on Wednesday afternoon the C&C dozer operator cut a single swath through the sand berm at lake level as assurance against any further lake elevation increases. The neighborhood behind Buzz's typically begins to get flooded when the lake elevation is higher than 3.0 feet. During the afternoon and evening as the ocean tide fell,

a small stream of water began to flow through this small cut, eventually eroding the entire sand plug. Over the next six days the lake level rose and fell in response to the tide, eventually sealing itself early Tuesday morning August 19.

The C&C plans to open the sand berm during the week of September 21, and October 19 although this could change depending upon future rainfall events or other emergency needs for the equipment.



### Historic Photo: Pintail ducks, Kaelepulu Pond 1952

The migratory pintail duck was common in Kaelepulu Pond in the '50s. It was a popular hunting duck and is rarely seen now.

**ELRA Annual Membership Meeting**

**September 26, 2009**

Mid Pacific Country Club  
5:30 p.m. No-Host Cocktails  
6:30 p.m. Buffet Dinner  
with meeting to follow

**\$10 for first dinner per household**

\$30 for each additional member of the household

Call Margie Kennard 263-3661 during daytime hours.



**Enchanted Lake Residents Association**

www.kaelepulupond.org

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED