



## *PMKCA October Newsletter, Part 2*



*Folks gathered at Denning's house afterwards to share stories and enjoy refreshments.*

### ***Community Cleanup Day 2023***

**Not much trash to be found, but a  
delightful Post-Pickup Party!**

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On Saturday morning, Sept. 23, after a two-year hiatus, PMKCA members, residents, friends, and visitors from far away, took to the roadsides of mauka Pa'auilo and Kalōpā to pick up trash and take a look at the condition of our roads. Of our sixteen named roads covering approximately 21 miles of asphalt and gravel, more than half of them received some attention.

The happy news is that, generally speaking, the collectors reported that the amount of trash found and collected was very light, even on our most trafficked roads!

Many of the road crews – not all, regretfully – gathered afterwards at Denning's house on Kula Kahiko for refreshments and pupus to get acquainted and talk story. The food was abundant, the drinks were rejuvenating, and the conversations were... just exceptional!



*Our crews included some new folks, Irwin Francus and Nor Risley, both with properties on Waika'alulu. in the community.*

Here are some highlights from our “apres-trash” party:



*The refreshments were homemade and abundant. New resident, Margo Richmond, and CERT lead, Denning Powell.*

The crews covered at least these ten roads: Kalopa Mauka Rd., Keahua Rd., parts of Ka’apahu Rd., Apelahama Rd., Kula Kahiko Rd., Ho’o Kahua Rd., Kukuipapa Rd., parts of Pohakea Rd. and some sections of Pa’auilo Mauka Rd. And, of course, the heralded Waika’alulu Rd. (An inside joke.)

I said this already – our roads are relatively clean! Speculating on why that might be true, we credited two things: 1) a growing community awareness and appreciation for what we have, and 2) the habit that some of our residents have of regularly walking the roads for exercise, carrying a bag to pick up refuse.

Wondering about the relative abundance of aluminum cans that seemed to have been viciously torn apart, we imagined the drinkers who couldn’t get their cans open fast enough! That vision was dispelled when Joe suggested that the county mowing equipment was the culprit! Aha!

Joe had parked his truck at the bottom of Denning’s driveway to receive the trash bags from the partygoers. He said later that his truck was less than half full! It’s likely that the collectors who didn’t or couldn’t attend the party had disposed of their bags on their own.



I’m aware that more folks volunteered to cover roads than came to the party afterwards, so it’s hard to say how many people and how many of our roads received attention. Still, I know that we are all very proud of our community and are quite willing to play a role in keeping it beautiful and safe.

*Julian Walstrom and Pennie Bumrungsiri (their second child is due “any day”!) walked portions of Kalopa Mauka with visiting friends.*



*Joe and Karen Clarkson speculate on the story behind a discarded hat.*

For me, the most delightful and heart-warming part of our Community Cleanup Day came when we were gathered at Denning's house. **More than half of the folks who were there were NEW residents in our community! The PMKCA "regulars" were outnumbered!** It was such a joy to hear others describe how they came to have a new home in this community and to feel the enthusiasm our new neighbors have for their lives here.

If you couldn't participate in the road cleanup, or missed the gathering afterwards, we missed you! It's not a small feat putting together a community event, but the rewards are so great, so uplifting! We hope to be able to have several such happy, productive events each year. Don't miss the next one!

*Karen & Garve from South Africa, visiting Pennie & Julian, got their hands dirty on Kalopa Mauka Rd. and contributed to our great conversations.*



*Paul Landau, Denning Powell and Julian Walstrom, getting acquainted.*



*Denning escorting the "be-caned" Diane Lewis (L) and Ruth Bennett up to his house. Such a lovely day!*