

Pa'auilo Mauka Kalopa Community Association December 2017 Newsletter

President`s Message



PMKCA President Joe Clarkson

Aloha PMKCA Neighbors

CERT Training Exercise

On Saturday November 4, our Paâ€™™ auilo Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members joined with all other Big Island CERTs at the Army National Guard facility in Hilo for a full-day training exercise. Well over one hundred CERT members attended, and participation counted as their required biennial training update.

The event was set up by our county Civil Defense staff to introduce all CERTs to the kind of coordination and resource allocation that could be required if a major disaster (think Hurricane Maria that recently demolished Puerto Rico) were to strike here. The exercise included hands-on search-and-rescue simulations, medical triage of victims, and elementary first aid. The â€œvictimsâ€ were volunteers from different communities, many of them spouses or kids of the CERT members.

Our Paâ€™™ auilo members unanimously agreed that the event was a valuable experience and a real eye-opener. â€œWhat impressed me, particularly â€˜,â€ said team member Denning Powell, â€œwas the depth of talent and capabilities of CERT people island-wide, and their commitment to the common good.â€ Team leader Carl Pinahs added, â€œI gained an appreciation up close of what an extraordinary resource CERTs would be if the Big Island is faced with a major disaster, with all emergency services swamped and communications limited.â€ All Paâ€™™ auilo CERT members took home important skills and understanding from the day-long exercise and are looking forward to incorporating many of those lessons learned

into their own emergency drill soon.

Road Cleanup

The periodic cleaning up of our roads within the PMKCA area is a priority for each and every one of us. In the past, PMKCA has scheduled a formal Road Cleanup day at least once per year, where volunteer members walk preassigned sections of roads, pick up discarded bottles, cans, paper and other trash and bring it all to a central location for consolidation and proper disposal. We haven't done that this past year but will try to launch such an effort in 2018. In the meanwhile, each of us can contribute to the effort on a daily basis in the following ways:

- not throwing or allowing any trash out of our cars and trucks as we drive through our own, or any other neighborhood.
- keeping eyes open, carrying a small paper or plastic bag, and picking up trash on our periodic walks through the neighborhood.
- if you come upon any large or bulky trash item on the side of the road during your travels through the neighborhood, call or email any PMKCA Board member for further disposal action. All Board member contact information can be found on the web at <http://pmkca.org/officers.shtml> .

Next PMKCA Meetings

The next quarterly meeting of the PMKCA Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen is scheduled for Thursday, January 11th, 2018, at the Vanilla Factory. At this meeting we'll firm up plans for our biannual General Membership meeting to be held at Pa'auilo School in late January (date to be determined). You don't need to be a board member or committee chairman to attend these Board meetings . They're open to all members and we welcome participation and contribution by all.

Best Regards,

Joe Clarkson
President, PMKCA

Pa'auilo Mauka Kalopa Community Association

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