

# **Pa'auilo Mauka Kalopa Community Association**

## **October 2017 Newsletter**

### **President`s Message**



*PMKCA President Joe Clarkson*

Aloha PMKCA Neighbors

### **Fire Protection**

In early September PMKCA board members Jim Millar, Jami Sales and I met with representatives of the Hawaii County Fire and Water Departments, including Glen Honda from the Fire Department and Kurt Inaba, Keith Okamoto and Kawika Uyehara from the Department of Water Supply. This meeting was arranged by Council Chair Val Poindexter's office in response to concerns expressed during our last general meeting about fire truck access to adequate water supplies in our community. Jim Millar, who is also a long-time member of our Pa'auilo Volunteer Fire department, had experienced extremely poor access to water during a structure fire in Ahualoa and wanted us to be sure that the same problem was not going to happen in Pa'auilo Mauka and Kalopa.

The good news is that Kalopa and Pa'auilo Mauka are well served by

numerous fire hydrants, especially in the mauka parts of these communities where the 6 inch water main traverses the area. There are a few poorly served areas on lower Kaapahu Road and lower Kula Kahiko Road, but due to the small size of the water system piping in those areas, no additional hydrants can be installed. At this time there are no plans for upgrading any of the decades-old water system pipes in our area.

## **Roads**

The county crews from the Hamakua section of the Highway Maintenance Division have been especially active recently in the PMKCA area. Several severe drop-offs on blind hills and curves on Hookahua Road have been filled in. One problem area was filled and paved over to prevent further erosion. We thank the crews for their efforts and especially for their courtesy in keeping the roads open with minimal delays during the work period.

Another road issue discussed at the last general meeting is in the process of being solved (we hope). Keahua Road in Kalopa is just less than 2000 feet long, but because it is straight and level it has been frequently used as a drag strip in recent years. At least three car-totaling wrecks have been reported, including high speed roll-overs, a telephone pole sheared off and cars coming to rest well off the roadway.

Council Chair Poindexter is helping residents along Keahua Road go through the process of applying for the installation of speed bumps on the road, which has a posted limit of 25 mph. We thank Val for her support and hope that the application process will be successfully completed and the bumps installed as soon as possible. So far no lives have been lost during racing accidents, but unless the racing can be prevented there is great danger that someone will be killed.

The PMKCA board of directors is still missing a Roads Committee Chair. This is one of the most important committees of our organization. PMKCA is a volunteer organization that relies on the good will and efforts of community members to make it function. Anyone residing in the Paauilo Mauka or Kalopa areas who is interested in road safety and road integrity

and is willing to attend a few meetings a year is encouraged to help us out by chairing the Roads Committee. Those interested in doing so should contact me or any board member. Our contact information is at [PMKCA.org](http://PMKCA.org).

## **Board Meeting**

Our next board meeting is on Thursday, the 5th of October, 7 pm at the Hawaiian Vanilla Company. Members of the public are welcome to attend and communicate directly with the board.

Best Regards,

Joe Clarkson  
President, PMKCA

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