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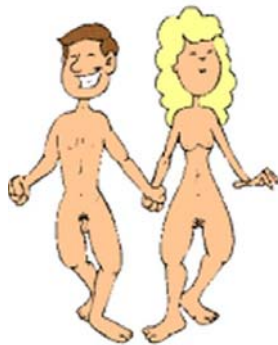
Message from "da Mayor"

Aloha,

It's me again kids! And again I'm here to tell you about our last CO cruise (Valentines) and a couple of other things.

First things first. Our cruise on 2/15 was not only a sellout but also the best trip we've been on yet. Yes, you've heard that before but it's true. Forty-nine of us came back from fun, sun, food, booze, whales and a few other things. Folks, we had to turn away about eight people because we'd reached our limit of fifty. A word to the wise, if you want to go, book early. Dave will fill you in a little later on our next tour.

Just after Christmas we had a hell of a storm.



Little Beach truly became a little beach. Getting over was a bitch and then there wasn't any beach. Since then we've had two more storms, lots of rain and high surf but the beach and access are coming back. Neither God, nature nor the authorities are going to curtail our pursuit of happiness. If we all hang in (or out) together we'll keep LB the way we want it – a place where we can all "hang out."

Dave's going to pick up here because there's more about the future of Makena you need to know and the proposed development. We're a strong group but we may need your help again.

Looking forward to seeing more of you. ☀ **Tom**

Nude Cruise Update



To help celebrate National Nude Recreation Week in early July Friends of Little Beach has confirmed its 7th Annual Nude Rec Week Nude Cruise for Sunday, July 11. This will be an afternoon cruise with boarding starting after 12:30 for cruising from 1 to 4:30 PM. We will be aboard the "new" Maui Magic which leaves from Slip #55 at Maalaea Harbor. The cost of the cruise is \$45 per member (\$85 per member couple) and \$50 for non-members. Sodas, beer and wine will be provided by the Maui Magic. Each cruiser is asked to bring a pupu to share for our dining pleasure. Snorkel gear and a water-slide will be available on the boat. As always, use plenty of sunscreen during the afternoon and bring hats and sunglasses for additional protection. Please remember to leave a generous tip for the crew as you leave the boat to show your appreciation for their efforts.

These cruises continue to be a big success so make your reservations early. Better yet, confirm the reservation by giving Dave or Miriam a check for the cruise now or send it to FOLB, PO Box 841, Pu'unene, HI 96784.

The 8th Annual Valentine's Day Cruise was another success. In spite of all the bad weather throughout the winter, the skies parted on Sunday to provide a nice sunny day for us. The weather allowed us to cruise down and around Molokini before anchoring in the Molokini horseshoe for food and water activities. Along the way we spotted several whales and saw a double breach right in front of the boat. As usual, we detoured on our way back to go past Little Beach so we could serenade the beachgoers. It was another great cruise. ☀

The Beach and the Weather

Since it is difficult to write about one and not the other, here is a synopsis of both.

Maui has seen one of the wettest and dreariest winters on record. The clouds and rains started in late November and continued well into March. Only in the past couple of weeks have the clouds broken away for sunshine. The miserable weather accounted for hundreds if not thousands of visitors wondering why they chose Maui for their winter/Holiday vacation. Rainfall records were broken across the island starting with Hana where 17 inches of rain fell in a 24-hour period in late March. Normally dry and arid Kihei has received nearly 3 times its normal 7 inches of rain so far this year. Obviously all this rain has helped ease the drought conditions we have had for the last many years. Unfortunately a lot of the rain came too hard and too fast. As a result however the island has not been this green in a long time.



In addition to the wet there have been high winds and incredible surf throughout the winter. There have been 3 drownings off Makena this year (2 off Big Beach on 1/15 and 3/23 and one off Little Beach on 1/13). These were in just two of the periods of huge swells where breakers easily had 10-15 foot faces. Due to the swells and overall dangerous conditions, plus lack of safety personnel, Makena State Park was closed for one day 1/16 and again for 3 days 2/27-29. Other parks and beaches were closed across the island at various times during

the intense storms of this winter. Many roads have been closed due to flooding and/or debris from the water on the roads. Pi'ilani Highway was closed for part of a day at the South end due to rocks and gravel that washed on to the road from Maui Meadows. Drainage ditches and culverts could not handle the huge volumes of runoff across the island.

If all of that wasn't enough to keep people away from the beach, then the lack of sand on the beach was. Most of Little Beach was washed away in mid-January, as well as about half of Big Beach. After about a week the sand started coming back to Little Beach but Big Beach kept washing away. The trip to the path across the North end of Big Beach was outright treacherous for 4-6 weeks, well into late Feb. Then, to add insult to injury, LB, as small as it was, washed away again on March 2. But this time it reappeared in one day so that by Friday March 5 there was about 10-20 feet of beach available for sunning, when the clouds disappeared. Before and after photos are available on the website. The tides and surf are still playing with the sand so Little Beach is not back to where it should be. This also means one must pay attention to the tide times or risk getting wet. Fortunately, getting across Big Beach is almost normal now.

Big Beach lost 30-50 feet of sand from the water back toward the high land and at least 6-8 feet deep. This lack of sand in January uncovered some old perforated metal plates that were apparently put down in the '40s for war training exercises. Folks speculate that there are a lot more under the sand and water but it won't be known for sure until the sand leaves to uncover it. A significant amount of Big Beach has returned, but neither Big nor Little Beach is back to comfortable normal. We will provide updates on the website when significant, dramatic changes or events take place.☀



New Additions

During your next visit to Little Beach you will notice a new addition at the beginning of the path from the parking lot (just inside the yellow gate). DLNR has installed a handicap-accessible portable toilet and picnic table on a concrete pad just to the right of the path. This will allow more members of the public to enjoy Makena State Park.

There is also a caretaker's cabin between the first and second parking lots that has recently been completed. The hiring process has begun to find a caretaker for the park who will reside in the cabin.☀

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR REGULAR BEACH UPDATES:
www.littlebeachmaui.com

In the News

The following was on the MSNBC Travel with Arthur Frommer's Budget Travel Website

20 secret bargains of Maui for under \$20 By Matthew Link

Equipped with the right addresses, the frugal traveler can both enjoy-and afford-the top attractions of this increasingly popular Hawaiian island. As a former resident of Hawaii, I enjoyed my leisure hours on Maui for not a penny more than I spent on Oahu, Kauai, or the Big Island. The hard-won knowledge of those idyllic times is set forth below in 20 bite-size capsules of island advice based on that experience.

3. SUN YOUR TROPICAL BUNS

One of the most social spots on the island is Little Beach at Makena, just north of the better-known, 3,300-foot-long Big Beach (where there's free parking). The small strip of sand attracts nudists, Boogie boarders, and residents who chat the day away in this lovely, undeveloped, free-of-charge hideaway. ☀

Membership Update

This is another reminder to those of you who have not submitted your 2004 membership dues. Your support will be especially important if/when the clothing optional status of Little Beach is challenged. Also, please send us your email address if you have one since it is much more economical to send the newsletter and other announcements by email than by regular mail.

For those of you who are members of AANR and/or TNS, simplify your life by renewing your membership through FOLB. We especially need AANR members to renew through us so we can maintain our club charter status with AANR. One check to FOLB will pay all your dues and help FOLB at the same time.

We currently have 88 paid 2004 members. Thank you all for sending in your dues. There are 170 on our email list and another 35 on our US Mail list. Our members and nonmembers are from Hawaii to Maine and Alaska to Florida, including Canada.

We have received a couple of inquiries regarding membership cards or other acknowledgement of membership. While in the past cards were sent out when dues were received, we have stopped that practice. It was costly and very time consuming. We hope your cancelled check will be sufficient to verify your membership. We also will make sure we deposit membership checks in a timely manner so there will be no confusion whether or not it was received and recorded. ☀



Makena Resort Rezoning Request

Makena Resort has applied to the County Council Planning and Land Use Committee for a rezoning of its land around the Maui Prince Hotel. Makena Resort is requesting rezoning of approximately 600 acres of its land of which 435 are already built out as golf courses (Makena North and South Courses). The remainder of the land is undeveloped. An additional 125 acres are already zoned for development.

The goal of this request is to make the County zoning designation consistent with the Kihei-Makena Community Plan. In this plan the land is designated as "hotel/resort" while the county designation is consistent with the plans Makena Resort made back in the '80s. The resorts present plan is to build 1100 luxury homes and condos and 89 time-share units on their land over a 20-year period. The request was submitted about 4 years ago.

Issues raised by opponents include water availability, highway and traffic capacity, lack of parks in South Maui, affordable housing commitment, ocean pollution due to rainwater runoff and damage/destruction of archeological-sensitive sites. Supporters site the investments the Resort has already made in road improvements, water transport systems to South Maui, beach access and parking improvements. They also credit Makena Resort with being a very good neighbor, unlike some others on Maui that go unnamed.

The County Council Committee started its deliberations on March 8. Several sessions were marathons, including one that started at 4:30 PM and ended at 3:30 AM the next morning.

Finally, on April 14th, five weeks after beginning deliberations, the Committee gave its final approval after attaching 41 conditions to the request. The request will now go to the entire County Council for approval. This will occur in June after the County Budget process is finished.

The Resort's plan should have little to no immediate effect on Little Beach since LB is part of Makena State Park. However, who can determine now what influence the Resort and new homeowners, condo owners and others may have on the future of park use, the beaches and other issues. If nothing else, usage of the park, beaches, parking lots and roads will continue to go up, in part due to the additional population the development brings to South Maui. ☀