



**Minutes – February 17, 2016  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Waimanalo Clubhouse**

**Board Members:** Guy Archer, John Braum, Barb Bruno, Laura Owens **Absent:** Bob Robinson, Quintin Bray, Chase Norton

**Others present:** Mike Algiers, Steve Brown, Richard Nettell (via videolink), Jim Yuen

1. Call to order at 7:00 PM
2. Motion to approve minutes from Jan 2016: Approved unanimously
3. Any change to order of business? (no)

Written Report? (Y or N)	Officers & Committees	Spokesperson	Notes
Y	President	Barb	
Y	Treasurer	Guy	
Y	Membership	Lynne	
Y	Trails	Steve Brown	
Y	Schedule	Steve Brown	
Y	Trail Maintenance	Mike	
Y (2)	Clubhouse	Justin	2 reports (this month & last month)
N	Endowment	Jim	
N	Website	Nate Luzod	At website meeting this past month, Hawkins & Richard were given access to update the newsbar, add entertainment events & post minutes and reports
N	Da Kine Kokua	Alaina	
Y	Entertainment	Hawkins	Entertainment events to be posted on website
N	Property Maintenance	Bob Rob	
N	Conservation	Quintin	
N	Books and Records	Chase	
N	Public Relations	--	In the absence of a PR chair, Thea & Barb, are now responding to “general” emails.

4. Old Business
  - A. At Aug 2015 board meeting, a motion was passed to open an account with Vanguard for the investment of the endowment and preservation funds. Jim Yuen is reviewing the forms and will report to the Board in March. [Jim to report only on Endowment]

B. At the Jan 2016, a motion was approved to convert the small room on second floor of clubhouse into an office. Timeline is to complete conversion before the April 3 annual meeting. [Chase, Bob Rob]

5. New Business

A. Approval of 4 new members: Quan Haberstroh, Carol Oltjen, Margie Stercho, Arnold Yago. Approved unanimously

B. Approval of donations received: \$100. Approved unanimously.

C. Motion to establish an ad hoc nomination committee, with Myrtle Wong as chair. Goal is to solicit nominations for 3 board member spots (which will become available in April 2016) and seek volunteers for open committee chair positions (PR, Property Maintenance). Approved unanimously [Richard]  
Note: If approved, need to update google drive.

D. Motion to establish a HTMC code of conduct (i.e., guidelines on appropriate and inappropriate behavior during hikes and other club events).. Approved anonymously [JB, Barb, Richard volunteered to serve on committee].

E. Motion to transfer \$600/month to Fidelity for investment (\$200 each) into the Club's current mutual funds -- Spartan 500 Index Fund, Intermediate Bond Fund, and Fidelity Equity Dividend Income Fund. [Motion on hold as board members had several questions. Guy to research answers and board will reconsider motion at March meeting]

Notes: (1) Over a period of 3 months, this would reduce the Club's cash balance by \$1,800 (on which no interest is currently paid). (2) Several years ago the Club transferred \$500/month (all of which remained in cash and was used for the most recent improvements).

F. Motion to support the trail committee recommendation that HTMC no longer participate in the task force related to hiking access. Approved unanimously.

G. Motion to support the trail committee recommendation that the HTMC name not appear in documents related to the task force without Board of Director approval. Approved with one abstention.

Note: For background, see Jan and Feb 2016 Trails Committee Report.

5. Announcements:

A. Next Meeting is March 16

6. Adjournment at 8:03 pm.

## Clubhouse Committee Report for the Month of January 2016

1. The clubhouse took in \$282.50 for the month of January:
  - a. \$186.00 from HTMC members
  - b. \$96.50 for guests
2. There were 18 cases of people using the clubhouse for the day. This does not include:
  - a. 49 people for entertainment night.
  - b. 9 people for the board meeting.
  - c. 4 cases of people showing up to help maintain the clubhouse.
3. There were 33 cases of people staying at the clubhouse overnight.
  - a. 1 member.
  - b. 1 guest.

There were no incidents and nothing else to report.

Respectfully submitted,

*Justin Ohara*

Clubhouse chair

Hawaiian Trail and Mountain Club

## Clubhouse Committee Report for the Month of December 2015

1. The clubhouse took in \$432.00 for the month of December:
  - a. \$239.00 from HTMC members
  - b. \$192.00 for guests
2. There were 47 cases of people using the clubhouse for the day. This does not include:
  - a. 100 people for entertainment night.
  - b. 7 people for the board meeting.
  - c. 19 cases of people showing up to help maintain the clubhouse.
3. There were 40 cases of people staying at the clubhouse overnight.
  - a. 4 were members.
  - b. There were no guests.
4. The weather conditions for December did impact the use of the clubhouse by members and guests.
5. There was a case where a request for overnight group use was denied due to past incidents. Day use only for this group is permitted.

There was nothing else to report.

Respectfully submitted,

*Justin Ohara*

Clubhouse chair

Hawaiian Trail and Mountain Club

## HTMC Events - 2nd Quarter 2016 - Entertainment Committee

April 9

Cory Yap: Biological Assessment of Hawaiian Streams

Hawaii's watersheds are often influenced by human landscape changes. These disturbances reflect in stream biological diversity, where the native freshwater fish and macroinvertebrate populations are most affected in areas where impacts are most severe, and least where habitats are natural.

April 23

Sons of Halawa: Documentary film

This locally made film premiered at the 2015 HIFF. The film features culturally rich picturesque Halawa Valley on Molokai Island. It tells the story of 'Anakala (Uncle) Pilipo Solatorio who is the last Hawaiian caretaker of the valley searching to pass along the traditions to the next generation.

May 7

Game Night

Get your game on: Apples to Apples, Boggle, Battleship, Jenga, Life, Monopoly, Risk, Settlers of Catan - or bring your favorite game to share with everyone. Relax and come play at the HTMC clubhouse for an informal evening together.

May 21

Auckland Tramping Club (ATC)

Because of the newly established sister club status between New Zealand and Hawaii, 10 New Zealand Kiwis will be visiting Hawaii and giving a slideshow on their club activities and some opportunities that HTMC folks may want to join in on.

June 4th

Chase Norton: Trekking Gear 101

An introduction to basic trekking gear that can withstand the brutal elements and rugged trails of Hawaii. From day hiking to backpacking learn more about the essentials to adventure with along the trail with expert gear consultant Chase Norton.

June 18th

Canyoneering Hawai'i: Exploring the Islands' Final Frontier

Technical canyoneering focuses on narrow creeks, chasms and canyons and this presentation will introduce the sport specifically on the Hawaiian Islands. Local canyoneers from each major island will share techniques, stories, and photographs from many never-before-seen environments.

HTMC Entertainment Committee Report  
January/February 2016

HTMC Clubhouse Events:

January 30, 2016

Presenter: Bob Liljestrand

Subject: Icebreaker: Impressions of The Russian Arctic – A Film

Attendance: 35

Donation: \$36

Expenses - Costco Lei \$8.89

February 13, 2016

Presenter: Chase Norton

Subject: Death Valley: Chase's Way

Attendance: 35

Donation: \$37

Expenses - M.P Lei Shop \$10

Total Expenses January/February - \$18.89

Upcoming Expenses:

Purchasing supplies for upcoming events: forks & napkins

Website Event Page Progress

Meet with Nate Luzod on February 2, 2016. Provided content and design for the additional page. Will help upload information and images once the page is added to the website by Nate.



# HTMC Membership Report

February 2016

## New Member Nominations:

Quan Haberstroh

Carol Oltjen

Margie Stercho

Arnold Yago

## Sponsor Signatures

Mike Algiers & Barb Brano

Marybeth Fentriss & Calvin Zane

Steve Rohrmayr & Dale Yoshizu

Marcus Griego & Bob Tyson

## February Donations - \$ 100.00

## Committee Notes:

Myrtle Wong & Gretchen Yamaguchi became Life members.

One Hundred twenty-nine members have not renewed their membership for 2016, deadline is March 1, 2016. We will be asking Nate to send reminders to those members this week.

**President Report – February 2016**  
**(submitted by Barb Bruno)**

1. As you know, Jeannie Furukawa has invited Auckland Tramping Club (ATC) to come to Hawaii in late May, to celebrate our new sister relationship. The trip is sold out!! Ten kiwis will be coming in late May. [The limit of 10 guests was set because the Haleakala cabins can only sleep 12, and Jeannie wisely arranged for a HTMC co-leader]
2. I am working with Wil Kawano (our insurance liaison) and Anna Wiser (insurance broker) to renew our insurance with Kamehameha Schools and the State of Hawaii as additional insureds. Estimated annual cost (including taxes and fees): \$1480.
3. The annual meeting is on Sunday April 3. Hawkins has offered to take headshots of all board members, officers, committee chairs and anyone else whose picture is on our website.
4. Reese Liggett emailed us to thank HTMC for donating the leftover flooring to the Youth Outreach House. He sent these photos:



Happy floor installers standing on HTMC's flooring donation



Group shot of most of the Youth Outreach House volunteers

5. Does the club want to consider establishing a HTMC code of conduct (i.e., guidelines on appropriate and inappropriate behavior during hikes and other club events)? Codes of conduct are becoming increasingly common for public events.
6. The trail-clearing recruitment shirts have arrived; available for \$5 to anyone who comes out to trail-clear 3 times. Several new people expressed interest in coming out.
7. Lisa Robertson (Nigel Robertson's daughter) is interested in having a memorial for Nigel at the clubhouse, possibly in May.

## Schedule Committee Report for BOD Meeting, 2/17/16

The committee reviewed and revised the write-ups for the hikes and for entertainment. We also reviewed and revised the meeting place blurbs, as well as the revised front page of the schedule, which no longer lists "meeting at the palace". We also noted the email from Janice and Don suggesting that Wailupe Loop be a members-only hike, due to the dangerous summit traverse. We will make a decision on this at a subsequent meeting. Grant suggested that Kaipapau Gulch be removed from active hikes, due to the length, amount of trail maintenance involved, and difficulty in finding a coordinator to lead it. Mike has been following the proposed changes that will affect access to the Maunawili Falls Trail. He will do more research on this.

Barb disclosed that Nate actually isn't using the write-ups that we send him. Instead he uses the canned write-ups that he has on file. She said that we should insure that he is advised of any changes that we make. We're not sure what procedures should be used for this. Should we send Nate the list of hikes for the quarter, and ask him to send us the write-ups for review and revision? Or perhaps this could all be done on-line. She mentioned that the coordinators are tasked with insuring that their write-ups are correct.

Steve wondered how many versions of the schedule we really have? Should we consider doing away with the printed schedules? Barb mentioned that the printed schedules are costly.

Perhaps the committee should consider polling the membership about whether or not to continue printing schedules.

Barb's comments –

I'd like to correct some inaccurate information in the schedule report, and to make a suggestion.

*Incorrect statement: Barb disclosed that Nate actually isn't using the write-ups that we send him. Instead he uses the canned write-ups that he has on file.*

What Barb said: I (Barb) said that I assume that Nate uses standard ("canned") write-ups, unless someone specifically tells him of a change. I assume that because I believe that would be the most efficient way to do this. I clearly stated that I don't know this for a fact, and that you should ask Nate if you want to find out how he does this. I have previously suggested you contact Nate when you have asked me website questions that I can't answer, or when you expressed concerns about the website. I am not sure why this hasn't been done. It seems to me that would be the easiest way to get your questions answered, your concerns expressed, and to ensure that you are reporting accurate information.

*Steve also wrote. We're not sure what procedures should be used for this. She [Barb] said that we should insure that he is advised of any changes that we make.*

I suggest following the same procedure that we currently use for communicating about the GPS database. Every quarter, when the schedule comes out, Steve Davis & I review the GPS database. Rather than sending Steve B the entire updated GPS database, we only tell him the 2 or 3 changes that have been made that are relevant to that quarter's schedule. This way, Steve B doesn't have to go through the entire database and paste in every single new GPS mileage into the schedule. I am suggesting that the schedule committee only send Nate the descriptions that need editing. This suggestion is relevant regardless of whether or not we do away with the printed schedule.

Trail Maintenance Report  
Mid Jan to Mid Feb 2016

- 24 Jan 2016 Wailupe loop (28 participants) Most of the crew went counterclockwise up the ridge, while a hand ful (including 2 weedwhackers) went clockwise, and climber the State Wiliwili nui trail to the summit. This group weedwhacked all the way to the top, and 3 with hand tools cleared across the Koolau Summit, to meet the larger group, who were coming up the ridge. The ridge was very overgrown, and the top final portion near the summit was only lightly cleared, as they ran out of steam. A third weedwhacker cleared the trail in the valley floor. Trail is in very hikeable condition.
- 30 Jan 2016 Palehua (8 participants) On an “extra” Saturday clearing, a small group cleared the Palehua Loop. It was much more overgrown than they had expected, and they worked until late afternoon, exiting at 5pm. They say that next year it will need a full scheduled clearing, top deal with the tall grass.
- 31 Jan 2016 Makua Rim (26 participants) This clearing was in preparation for the upcoming HTMC campout. The weedwhackers cleared the field where the tenters set up and the open space under the shade trees. Another weedwhacker and a crew with hand tools cleared trail along the fence (westward), and a third weedwhacker and small crew worked the fence in the other direction toward Three Corners, but only cleared to the big dip, and after that just pushed thru, clearing lightly. The area is ready for the campers.
- 7 Feb 2016 Keaau Ridge (18 participants) The lower portion of this hike is on dirt roads that don't require clearing. Mid way up there was dry grass and brush to deal with, then the upper is mostly on rock. A very advance trail. Noticed an increase of invasive burbush stickers.
- 14 Feb 2016 Malaekahana Pools (26 participants) This year we did not plan to clear to the summit, since the Club did not intend to hike the upper portion of this trail. We had three weedwhackers spaced out on the trail, and whacked to the fork leading down to the pools. Crew members with hand tools widened the “guava tunnels” and the steep trail down to the pools. The trail is now very wide open.

HAWAIIAN TRAIL & MOUNTAIN CLUB  
HIKES CONDUCTED BETWEEN DEC 16, 2015 & JAN 20, 2016

DEC 19 SAT 8 AM AIEA BISECTUAL, COORDINATOR RON MILLER  
MEMBERS - 3, GUESTS - 6, KIDS - 0

Substituted for Kaluanui Ridge, due to Kamehameha Schools decision to not allow hiking, temporarily.  
Ron's report –

The hike went well with not incidents to report. There were 6 guests and 2 members participating. \$18 in voluntary contributions were collected. Weather was overcast but good. The trail was muddy in the valley portion along the stream. The waterfall near the stream crossing was flowing nicely. This hike was new for all the guests and most showed an interest in joining HTMC.

DEC 20 SUN 8 AM WAIMANO, COORDINATOR RALPH VALENTINO  
MEMBERS - 12, GUESTS - 6, KIDS - 0

Ralph's report –

11 members and 6 guests showed up for the Waimano hike. Most of the guests went first to the Palace, but due to the length of the hike, and the fact that it gets pretty dark in the woods in the mid-late afternoon during the winter, I'd recommend that this hike start at 8am at the trailhead in the future. Anyone wanting to hike can call the coordinator, listed in the schedule. Thanks to Laura for going to the Palace to help those folks get to the trailhead.

It was a nice day, partly sunny, with high winds. Surprisingly, the high windy gusts never affected us on those sections of the trail with steep and high drop-offs, as the winds went down the middle of the valley, and didn't make it all the way to the trail. It did sprinkle on us as we hiked out, but only for about 10 minutes.

The trail was only lightly muddy in spots, even with recent showers. That, coupled with the well-cleared trail made it an easy summit to reach (if you could last that long, over 6 miles). Only the last mile wasn't cleared wide, but it was never a 'push' to get through the vegetation. In all, 12 folks summited, including most of the guests. We were treated to a very nice view of Kaneohe Bay, cloudy above, and high wind gusts coming up the pali face from below. This would be an easy intermediate hike, if not for the length and the few areas of great drop-offs.

Turnaround time occurred at 1:45 pm, and as a result, the last group didn't exit the trail until just after 5pm. If the group were to all start at 8:05 am after the spiel, then turnaround time could happen at 1:15, and all should be out by 4:30 or 4:45.

Thanks goes out to Ed Mersino for building a detour trail around one of the rocky tunnel areas, where the cable/rope situation requires you to put your full weight (and faith) on trusting the rope and the old dead tree it's tied to. This detour is over 200 yards long, maneuvering above the original trail, and is easy to hike, as Ed did such a fine job building it.

Winter is an ok season to hike this trail, but it would help to start it at the trailhead by 8am so that more hikers could make it to the summit, and out before dark.

Two of the guests were English; vacationing from their jobs in Denmark. Other guests look likely to join up as members.

DEC 27 SUN 8 AM (MEMBERS) BOWMAN, COORDINATOR DOUG KLEIN  
MEMBERS - 10

Dusty's report –

10 members showed up for the hike & most started in right away. 5 of us reached the summit & the last of us were out at 3pm.

The trail was VERY muddy. And it needed more clearing than we did on the trail clearing. It is going to be much harder opening it up next year. I also suggest this not be a winter hike. It is too wet and muddy and is totally soaked in when you get near the summit.

JAN 1 FRI 8 AM KOKO CRATER, COORDINATOR LAURA OWENS  
MEMBERS - 73, GUESTS - 42, KIDS - 5

Laura's report -

Unofficial count by Grant - 147 (give or take depending on distraction by pretty women in yoga pants)

Day was beautiful and ocean behaved. Chaotic at the Blowhole Parking Lot as usual. More on that later.

One hiker lost his soul, or rather, lost both his soles, which fell apart from the shoe (glue only lasts so long). Not sure who, but either Darrell or Grant came to the rescue with Duct Tape and extra shoe laces. Hiker was a trooper and finished the entire hike with his daughter, flopping along.

Did not witness this incident, but heard later that hiker Noel Kent slipped on the sharp grate area at the top of stairs. He cut his leg. Was helped by Karen Liliker and others to bandage and stop bleeding. He came down fine, finished hike and did not even go to the doctors. Next day, called Noel to follow up, he is doing fine. Another minor incident with hiker Dan Harmon, who scraped up his arms a bit.

Parking and traffic situation appears to be getting worse. More and more people for the sunrise. Some hikers waited 20 minutes for a spot at Sandys. At least one hiker got a parking ticket. According to police, okay to park on the grass for the sunrise, but after 7:30 cars must be moved. If not, tickets issued - \$35. Blowhole parking lot is usually monitored by at least one cop, but this year no cop at all. All down at Sandys and makapuu. People parking ALL OVER the place, no rules; at some points, vehicles could not even enter off the highway because no space for vehicle passage. Really need a cop to keep some sort of order and keep traffic flowing. I could not get a space and had to come back to park my car after starting the last group up the mountain. For next year, need a few more assistants below with me to take up newbies in waves. Better in waves anyway, since always a big log at the rope. Justin was a big help, took up a huge group because I was still signing people up and people coming in late. Gave a quick spiel to the few people left at the end. But, everyone else, including many non-members, do not get a spiel. Took up the last small group and thankfully Thea and JB were also going up at the same time and group followed them. I had to get back to my car and hunt for parking along the roadside. It was a bit crazier this year, most likely due to all the traffic heading to the govt sponsored Makapuu hike down the street and clear day for sunrise. I got there at 6:30 and never got parking, but also I'm busy and can't sit in my car and wait. Grant probably comes at 5 or earlier to get his spot. Perhaps parking at clubhouse and renting a bus to get HTMC hikers to and from?

One suggestion made - park at Koko Head District Park and start the hike going down into the gun range - same route but different order. However, many people also climb the stairs for the sunrise, have never checked parking, not sure if any better than Sandys. Another drawback is heading up the arch and tough hill when the sun is higher and hotter. Also, early bird hikers would not work; very bad idea to hike the coastline in the dark, even with a headlamp. Presently, we have hikers going up the arch around 6 am, with the ropes not even set. Some people just have to be first in line!!!

As usual, many thanks to my personal helper signing people up and collecting money - Elena Shiroma. Also thanks to Elena for helping me clear/mark the down hill section to gun range and side of the road to clear gutter area. Huge mahalo to Grant Oka for getting the ropes up incredibly early. Ralph Valentino, Steve Davis, and Darrell Teruya for standing by on the Arch and helping folks up the rough spots. Thanks to Justin for taking up a newbie group to relieve some pressure from me.

Still a great day when it's all over with! ☺

JAN 3 SUN 8 AM (MEMBERS) KAMAILEUNU, COORDINATOR ARNOLD FUJIOKA

MEMBERS – 18

Arnold's report –

For just the second time I had an assistant on Kamaileunu as Udom graciously volunteered.

17 members signed in and the weather was very clear and warm. We started shortly after 8:00, going up took about 3 hours and amazingly, the grass was shorter than last year. it was rather shocking when you consider all the rain we had. The slower hikers arrived just before noon.

The summit was a bit confusing because club member Laredo was there with a group he was taking down the summit and over to Noname peak. 2 of his group chickened out and they came down mixed in with our hikers. I would prefer him not doing that sort of thing on the day of the club hike. Anyway we left the summit about 12:20 and we got to the parking area shortly after 3:00. All vehicles were accounted for and no injuries were reported.

Another matter of concern is that while we were on the ridge somebody hung 2 signs on the yellow gate. one said "keep out" and the other said "private property". I'm sure they weren't posted by Board of Water Supply. Somebody probably saw us going in and doesn't want us doing it again.

JAN 10 SUN 8:30 AM WAHIAWA HILLS, COORDINATOR UDOM STAMEGNA

MEMBERS - 25, GUESTS - 19, KIDS – 1

Udom's report –

It was a BIG group of hikers that came for Sunday hike of Wahiawa Hills, 19 Non-Members, and 25 HTMC members (including myself) and 1 member arriving late so was not sign-in on our waiver form. With a large group, I enlisted Justin to help with the hike, we start our hike about 8:40AM after a short briefing. The hike was lead in CCW directions, with me being a sweeper. I hiked with one non-member gentleman, who is recovering from a knee surgery and got an OK from the doctor to be out hiking. We finished the hike around 3PM, all the cars and other hikers was gone so I'm sure everyone make it out safe and sound. Only received a cell phone call from one group who went past the traveling Palms and missed the turn off about noon time but they must got back on the right course because the car was not there when I came out at 3PM.

Collected \$40 from a non-members collection jar and YES, I'm short \$\$ again ☹.

JAN 16 SAT 8 AM MAKAPUU POINT, COORDINATOR JOHN HALL

MEMBERS - 6, GUESTS - 12, KIDS - 1

John's report –

Peter and I arrived at Makapu'u a little before 7:30 AM on Saturday. The parking lot was full and cars were lined up solidly on both sides of the access road from the highway. Cars were filling every vacant space along the right side of the highway as far as legal parking was possible up toward the Lookout. The left side of the highway was solidly lined with cars from as far up to the Lookout as they could park and down for about 1/4 of a mile almost to the bend in the highway where it turns toward the golf course. Peter and I were lucky to find a parking space opposite the access road to the trail on the highway, but it was obviously going to be very difficult for most of our hikers to find parking nearby and get to the trailhead by 8:00 AM unless they had allowed a good deal of extra time.

I would strongly recommend to the Schedule Committee that when this hike is scheduled next year the write-up advises hikers to meet and park at the Alan Davis surfing parking lot, where there should be adequate, if very rough, parking for our group. Unless of course, other Makapu'u hikers also discover this alternative by then! If they don't know this spot, have them call me for instructions. This parking lot is the far end of the Ka Iwi Coastal trail that branches off the Makapu'u walk almost immediately after the trailhead. There is actually a complex of trails between these two points - some of them follow the coastline and offer good views of the little inlets, native plants, mangroves, etc. that line this coast while one is farther inland and offers a relatively short and direct route to the foot of Pele's Chair from which we generally take the more fit hikers up the ridge to the paved path. For the less ambitious, the Coastal

trail continues on the level to the Makapu'u trailhead and the paved path that starts there. These alternatives would offer a possibility of solving the parking problem and provide a more interesting, and probably not much longer hike, although with possibilities for making it longer by staying near the coast in one of the directions.

Only one hiker joined us on the highway, and we decided it would make more sense to move down to the trailhead at the end of the parking lot. I had given my cell phone number on my landline answering machine, and one hiker called me for instructions, but the rest found us without any problem. (I don't know how many gave up when they couldn't find parking!) After everyone was signed up and I read the legal caution and described the hazards and alternatives for the hike, we were ready for a somewhat delayed start. Peter offered to take anyone who wanted a less strenuous hike up the paved trail, but everyone opted to take the Ka Iwi Coastal trail to the foot of Pele's Chair and the scramble up the ridge from there. I had some reservations about the ability of some of the older women to do this version, but they wanted to try it. Both of our groups (fast and slow) missed the turn to Pele's Chair through talking too much and ended up at a lovely little sheltered swimming cove at its base, but the turn was only a hundred yards or so behind, so we soon corrected this error. I stopped periodically here and on the ridge to take some pictures of the scene (Kohe-lepelepe and adjacent coast) for a friend in Kansas who is going to do a painting of it for me, while Peter led the faster hikers on up the ridge. Three of the older women found the climb quite challenging, and I stayed with them. They said that they had hiked with the Club years ago and hoped to get back into hiking, and for that reason had chosen to start with this "novice" hike - but didn't choose to do the novice route! Anyway, slowly and with many pauses for breath and to enjoy the views, we made it up the ridge and reached the paved path again. Pat Rorie was there - apparently his New Hope group was doing this hike also. And Peter said he saw a large group of Scouts on the trail also, so perhaps with those who came up to watch the sunrise, this accounted for the large number of people on the trail this day. However, this is an increasingly popular walk, and parking was already tight last year. My small group continued up the path to where the rough trail down to the tide pools descends. I had told the group of the option to go down to this area at the beginning but I don't think that anyone chose to do so. In fact, much to my surprise, the trail seemed to be deserted. When I was there a few weeks ago with Solemates, on a Wednesday, there was a constant stream of people up and down this trail. From the top, we could see the main blow hole spouting quite vigorously and the waves were breaking quite high at the edge, although the more mauka tide pools would still have been safe for swimming. My 3 ladies wanted to go on a bit to view the lighthouse, but we all felt it was safe for me to leave them at this point. We saw several of our hikers returning down the path, and we had taken so much time to get to that point that I felt sure that most of our that most of our party was out already, so I headed down the pavement and to home, which I reached a little after 11:00 AM.

JAN 17 SUN 8 AM (MEMBERS) GODEK/JASKULSKI RDGE, COORDINATOR MIKE ALGIERS  
MEMBERS - 18

Mike's report -

There were 27 participants for this 'Members Only' hike, who met at 8:00AM in the community park at the end of Ala Aolani street in Moanalua valley (one hiker came late and did not sign in...making the total count 28 ). As part of the briefing, I announced that we would be taking a different route, and would not start by climbing the hill behind the basketball court to reach the ridge, as we'd normally do. The trail along that ridge had not been cleared, and there is a tree which has toppled, taking out part of the trail in a narrow area, making passage hazardous. Instead, we would hike on the carriage road to where the State trail branches off (2.2 miles). From there we would hike a short distance on the State trail, and then turn off to climb the side ridge (which we normally come down) up to the main ridge and the "lunch spot". From the "lunch spot" we would continue on the main ridge, all the way to the Ko'olau summit. The group did not express any objections to this plan.

We began hiking at about 8:15, and quickly sorted into groups of fast hikers, medium speed hikers, and slowpokes. I lingered with the back of the pack until we reached the turn-off at the State trail, to insure that everyone made the turn. I also lingered at the next turn, and was pleased to see that my unofficial assistant, Steve Davis, had ribboned it well, and he had placed a branch across the other path to block it. We all began climbing the side ridge, and reached the 'lunch spot' at about 10:00. A few hikers



decided that that was as far as they wished to go, and they would turn back at this point. The others continued toward the summit.

Normally when this hike is led from the basketball court, very few hikers have the energy to continue from the 'lunch spot' up to the summit, since they would have already had a long trudge along the main ridge. But hiking in on the carriage road as we had done was easier, so most of the group were eager to try for the summit. It also helped that the trail to the summit had been cleared this year, which is not normally the case. Along the way to the summit, a few did turn back, but the majority reached the top. I lingered there at the top with the final five hikers for a long lunch, and then we left as a group, and headed down at 12:45. I swept. We got back to the 'lunch spot' at 2:12, and down to the road at 3:00pm. The walk back on the road took a little over an hour, so we reached the park at a little after 4pm. Along the way we encountered a hiker (not one of our group) sitting down with leg cramps and no water, so we gave him our remaining water, but he declined any additional assistance. We later saw that he made it back to the park. Steve Davis had gotten back ahead of us, and he had been making a list of the hikers who had exited, which made accounting for everyone much easier, but a quick check of vehicle license plates was done for confirmation. It was a good hike with no incidents.

Total Hikes - 8

Average # of Hikers per Hike – 34

As mentioned in the last report, Mike and Steve attended a meeting with the Sierra Club Outings Committee to plan an agenda and discuss topics to be presented to Suzanne Case, DLNR Chair, when meeting with her later. The group agreed that one initial focus should be the Halawa Ridge Trail. Steve volunteered to be part of the steering committee for the planned ongoing task force which will address hiking access to private and public lands.

After the meeting, Mike expressed concerns about some of the suggested tactics that may be employed. Following the meeting, Steve recommended by email including in the letter to Chairman Case a suggested initial focus on just one trail (Halawa), amongst the many problem trails that will be mentioned. This recommendation was declined, since it was felt that this would soften the effect of the letter. Apparently the intent is a strong message to insure that she is aware of the extent of the problem.

I'm uncomfortable with this approach, since it seems to me to be too confrontational. It seems that we should speak softly, as well as carrying a big stick. While the current focus of the group is on research, meetings with Kamehameha Schools, and other organizations are planned. We already have a good rapport with KS, and I wouldn't want the tone of the communication with them to adversely affect our relationship with them or other organizations.

Fred Boll also voiced a strong objection to our participation with the Sierra Club in this project. He has first-hand knowledge of the negative attitude of some landowners to SC. Our involvement with SC may adversely affect the work he has done at Mokuleia, if the club ever decides to buy the additional insurance required for access, or if the insurance requirement changes, and we request access.

- I've spoken to all the members of the trails committee, and the consensus is that the club should not participate in the task force. Please let me know the board's opinion regarding this.

At least, I'll let Randy know that I don't want to be part of the steering committee, and will decline the invitation to the dinner meeting planned for Friday Feb 19.

- Below is the letter that has been sent to Chairman Case. Please let me know if the board has concerns about having the club's name appear in this or subsequent documents from this group.

Dear Ms. Case,

We are hikers concerned about the loss of trail access in Hawaii. To give you an idea of how large the problem is, here is a partial listing of trails the public has lost in the last 20 years:

Kipapa, Ohikilolo, Puu Kaua, Palikea, Kalena, Kanehoa - Hapapa, Halawa, Dupont, Waialae Nui, Mokuliea, Makapuu Tom Tom, Mariner's Ridge, Castle Trail, Sacred Falls, Maakua Gulch, Haiku Stairs, Ihi'ihilaauakea (Koko Head), Waimalu Ridge, Halapepe Nui and Waiawa-Aherns Ditch.

Some of these trails have been lost to the public because of concerns relating to issues such as trail maintenance and liability.

Although our group is composed of hikers, there are other trail users who are also affected by trail closures, including hunters, bikers, equestrians, trail runners and pet owners. We have started to reach out to them to join our group, to help push back against this alarming trend.

While we understand that you cannot personally engage in the detailed negotiations and policy work required to resolve these issues, we do not believe that they will be viewed as the emergency that they have become, nor treated with the urgency that they demand, without direction from the Chair of the Department.

It may be that new funding is required to address these issues, and if so we would be happy to discuss how we can help fight for funds and usefully tap our broad networks of supporters to bring pressure to bear upon the Legislature. The Sierra Club alone has over 12,000 registered members and supporters in Hawaii and, as you know, we have a long track record of being able to marshall that support for important environmental causes.

We hope to be able to discuss this issue with you in the near future. Please feel free to email me at makikirandy@yahoo.com or to call me at 942-0145.

In closing, let me say that we know you to be a true champion of the environment and that we truly appreciate the work that you do on behalf of the people of Hawaii.

With Aloha,

Randy Ching

on behalf of the Trail Access Group of The Sierra Club and The Hawaiian Trail and Mountain Club

**HAWAIIAN TRAIL & MOUNTAIN CLUB  
Treasurer's Report**

**February 17, 2016**

**Fidelity Investments 2016**

**January 16    Annual Net Change**

Beginning value as of January 1, 2016:	\$85,155.79	\$85,762	01/31/15
Withdrawals (-)	0.00	<u>\$82,756</u>	01/31/16
Change in investment value (minus)	<u>-2,400.08</u>	<b>- \$3,006</b>	
<b>Ending value as of January 31, 2016:</b>	<b>\$82,755.71</b>		

Fidelity Funds Account – Capital Improvement:	\$32,280.90
Fidelity Funds Account – Preservation:	<u>50,474.81</u>
<b>Total Portfolio Value as of January 31:</b>	<b>\$82,755.71</b>

**First Hawaiian Bank [Bonus Checking]**

Beginning value as of January 1, 2016:	\$ 24,563.89
Deposits and credits (+):	\$ 3,175.83
Withdrawals (-):	<u>\$ -3,619.28</u>
<b>Ending FHB balance as of January 31:</b>	<b>\$24,120.44</b>

**First Hawaiian Bank [Free Business Checking]**

Beginning balance as of 01/01/16	\$ 100.00
Deposits and credits:                    None	\$ 0.00
<b>Ending FHB balance as of January 31:</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>

**Bank of Hawaii**

Beginning value as of January 1, 2016:	\$ 10,222.64
Deposits/Withdrawals:                    None	
<b>Ending BOH balance as of January 31:</b>	<b><u>\$10,222.64</u></b>

**Total Balance as of 01/31/2016:**                    **\$117,198.79**

[Total Balance as of 01/01/16: \$120,042.32]

Taxable dividends and capital gains (Year 2016):    \$ 82.61