

menehune marchers news

Summer 2008

Volume 8, Issue 2



Upcoming Events

Jun No Event this Month

Jul **Ho'omaluhia**
27 **Anniversary Walk**
Maria Brasher
261-3583

Jul **Quarterly Business**
27 **Meeting**
Mark Brown
234-0476

Aug **Hanauma Bay/Portlock**
3 *Marsha Okada*
395-9724



**Are You a Member of
AVA yet?**

Upcoming July Event

Ho'omaluhia

Anniversary Walk
Quarterly Business Meeting

Maria Brasher



The July walk will be combined with the club business meeting at Ho'omaluhia Park, on July 27, 2008. All the information will be sent by the brochure, look for it soon. The club will also celebrate its 21st anniversary at the park. Put the date on your calendar.



President's Message

Mark Brown

Aloha All,
Many thanks to Marsha Okada for organizing the 17 February YR Hui Hele Walk, to Judy Perrault for organizing the 18 February Great Aloha Run "Piggy Back" Run/Walk, to Barbara Mateo-Kihano for organizing the 15 March Ka'ena Point Guided Walk, and to Carol & Dennis Romig for organizing the 12 April West Loch Shoreline Walk. All four club events were well-attended and much enjoyed! Thanks again Marsha, Judy, Barbara and Carol & Dennis!!!

At the 27 April Club Quarterly Business Meeting, we continued to refine and finalize our walks calendar for 2008. Significantly, the Kamananui Valley Walk formerly scheduled for 8 June is cancelled. Our revised calendar (with the date, event, and event manager/volunteer) follows:

12 January – Waimea Valley Audubon Center Walk (Carol & Dennis Romig)-*Completed*

27 January – Quarterly Business Meeting (Mark Brown) - *Completed*

17 February – Diamond Head YRE Hui Hele (Marsha Okada) - *Completed*

18 February – Great Aloha Run "Piggy Back" Run/Walk (Judy Perrault) - *Completed*

15 March – Ka'ena Point Guided Walk (Barbara Mateo-Kihano) - *Completed*

12 April – West Lock Shoreline Park (Carol & Dennis Romig) - *Completed*

27 April – Quarterly Business Meeting (Mark Brown) - *Completed*

Upcoming August Event

Hanauma Bay/Portlock

Marsha Okada

Did you know that Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve is among the top seven sites chosen by Star-Bulletin readers as one of the Seven Wonders of Hawaii? If you have not visited Hanauma Bay since our event in March of 2002, then join us on Sunday, August 3, 2008 at the Koko Head District Park between 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. You will notice the changes that have taken place since then.



Hanauma Bay

This new walk also takes you once again, through the upscale neighborhood of Portlock in East Oahu. Do you remember our walk in April of 2006, where some of you complained about the "hills"? Well, the route goes in the reverse direction so you will be walking somewhat downhill now. The same panorama will be viewed from a different perspective as you stroll along the route.

An "A" award patch, designed by Gordon Tyau will be available to the first 50 walkers for \$6.00, if pre-registered in advance. A worker's walk is planned for Saturday, August 2. It is also intended for club members who cannot walk on Sundays. Call Marsha Okada at 395-9724 if you are interested. More information is in the forthcoming brochure.

Completed March Event

Kaena Point

Barbara Mateo-Kihano



We had **49** walkers who registered & completed this 10K hike. **29** hiked for IVV credit while **20** did it just to experience the flora and wildlife up close and personal. This being our third year hiking Ka'ena Point, we were still able to see the **Moli** (Laysan Albatross) and get to "hear" the sounds of the **'Ua'u Kani bird**(*Puffinus pacificus*). Our experience was complete as we also saw the **Ilima Papa, Pohinahina, Nehe, 'Ohai, Naupaka Kahakai, Ma'o and the Pa'u O Hi'iaka**. This year was the first time that we got to meet and talk to the marine biologists. They shared that "the Moli chick" is left alone for a period of time so that the parents can then fly back to Alaska to get food for the chick. They then fly all the way back to Ka'ena Point Refuge with their bills full of food for their offspring. *Simply amazing!*

We were happy to have walkers **Kay Rowley & Brad Blegen of Washington State**, who shared their experience of that day; "*the walk was wonderful—just loved getting out for exercise, fresh air, seeing the ocean waves, whale spouts, albatross, a baby chick & a burrow with a sheertail in it. Enjoyed your friendly people as well.*" We also had **Sheila & Bob Morrison of the Capitol Volkssport Club of Washington State**. They also enjoyed this event and had lunch with Barbara Mateo-Kihano & Percy Kihano at Haleiwa's Kuaaina Sandwich shop after the event. For those of you who joined the Menhune Marchers in 1987, may remember that charter club members Barbara & Michael Hays of Washington also belonged to the Capitol Volkssport Club of Washington.

Mahalo nui loa to the Romigs(Dennis & Carol)for leading the hikers and also to the Executive Director Josh Hemowitz of YMCA Camp Erdman. We were able to use the restroom facilities & also conduct our registration using their Mauka parking lot. Special thanks to Gilbert & Marsha Okada who helped at the registration table & especially to our president Mark Brown & Molly Brown who welcomed our walkers and ensured that everyone got to the start location on time.

Completed April Event

West Lock Shoreline Park

Carol and Dennis Romig



A beautiful, sunny day greeted club members and interested guests at Asing Park in Ewa on April 12.

We walked along waterways at the edge of Pearl Harbor West Lock, past the golf course, and into two tree shaded homes developments. We crossed an old expanded metal bridge, looking at marshy water, while passing a heron, looking for a meal.



There were two small urban parks, overlooking the homes and it was interesting to see Waipahu Sugar Mill smokestack in the distance. We walked out on three of the ten piers that extended into West Lock, built under the Fasi Administration that was also connected by a paved walkway.



President's Message

[Continued from page 1]

18 May – Historic Waikiki YR Hui Hele (Marsha Okada)

June – No Events

27 July – Ho'omaluhia Club Anniversary Walk & Pot Luck Luncheon (Maria Brasher)

27 July – Quarterly Business Meeting (Mark Brown)

3 August – Kokohead District Park (Marsha Okada)

7 September – Manoa YRE Hui Hele (Ben & Lan Char)

4 October – Bellows Air Force Station Walk (Carol & Dennis Romig)

26 October – Quarterly Business Meeting (Mark Brown)

9 November – Nu'uaniu Valley Walk (Bob Iverson)

12 December – Club Xmas Celebration, Hong Kong Restaurant, Aloha Tower (Gayla Tarumoto & Carol Romig)

Please participate in as many of the club events as you can. Also please volunteer to help where you can and always be sure to thank those who have kindly offered their precious time and talents to organize club events.

Just a reminder that our next Club Quarterly Business Meeting will be held following the Ho'omaluhia Club Anniversary Walk & Pot Luck Luncheon at about 12 PM, Sunday, 27 July. Please stay for the meeting and contribute to the planning of our many enjoyable club activities! See you on the trails...

Completed May Event

Waikiki Hui Hele

Marsha Okada



The awful voggy weather we were experiencing all week somewhat cleared up on Sunday, May 18, making it a very nice day for walking in Waikiki. Also, Kalakaua Avenue was not as congested with tourists as it usually is. On the return, some of us took a detour and had a hearty breakfast buffet with the 50% off coupon at the Shorebird Restaurant. Unfortunately (or maybe fortunately) we still had another 5K to go. Robert and Wanda Wright of Waipahu were happy to have heard of this Historic Waikiki Hui Hele after doing the West Loch walk in April. They are volksmarchers who have been on a hiatus since 1991, but will soon be joining the club to do more walks. Seventeen club members and friends showed up for this event: 2 for "A" award, 12 for IVV credit, and 3 for free.



This Historic Waikiki YRE, along with the Diamond Head and the Kahala YRs, is available at the New Otani Kaimana Beach Hotel. Club members, remember it cost just \$1.50 to do any of the year-round-events

In Memory Of

Dawn Miyashiro

President, Menehune Marchers, 2003-04

Aloha All



Dawn

"I first met Dawn when I joined the Menehune Marchers, and she was the club president. As I got more involved with the club I became her vice president and we planned many meetings and events together.

She is the only person I know that had the name Dawn and it always brings to mind the thoughts of a new day, something to look forward to. Dawn was a bit like that also. She was always quick to volunteer and willing to take on a new challenge with a positive outlook.

We will miss you Dawn and I'll think of you on my next early morning walk"

*John Oszajca,
Past President*

"Super in Deeds and Super Indeed"

I will always have fond memories of Dawn. A former boss described her as a super secretary who anticipated people's needs. Her brother, Ron, characterized her as being kind and giving. I remember her as an excellent President; a unifying force and the founder of some of our club traditions.

The Party Lights Combo

Over the years, the Menehune Marchers has held Christmas parties on a non-regular basis. Those I attended were always fun; whether at a library or at the Cannon Club. What Dawn did to make the Christmas party different was to combine the party with the viewing of the downtown Christmas lights. It was not surprising that people showed up for the walk. What was surprising was who showed up; club members who seldom attended an event and friends of club members who were not regular walkers. The walk was followed by dinner at the nearby Columbia Inn and dessert provided by Gordon Harada who baked a haupia cake. The event was a signature Dawn event; the bringing together of people who would not ordinarily meet one another.

The Inaugural Big Island Volks Trip

During the "Pre-Dawn Days" traveling to the neighbor islands for walks was done on an individual basis. Dawn initiated the first Big Island Volks Trip. Twenty of us traveled from Hilo to Volcanoes National Park and on to Kona in a caravan of three minivans. Dawn planned the itinerary, booked the vans and rooms in Kona, ensured everyone had accommodations at the Kilauea Military Camp, took pre-orders for lunch, had snacks for us after the Volcanoes walk, and was our tour guide during the non-walking hours. She even booked a rental car for Harriet Miyasaki and me when we told her we wanted to visit a friend in Waimea on the last day of our Big Island Volks Trip. Dawn kept in touch with us throughout the Big Island trip to ensure that things were going well. When I spoke to her about a problem with our room in Kona, she saw to it that we were moved to a more suitable room. It was a demonstration of her "can do" attitude coupled with her natural inclination to make people happy. There have been subsequent Big Island Volks Trips but the inaugural trip has remained a favorite.

And so goodbye...

I wish Dawn was still with us. I miss her presence and her upbeat spirit. She will remain unforgotten by those whose lives she has touched with her thoughtfulness and selflessness"

Gayla Tarumoto

Waikiki, Diamond Head,
Kahala

First Quarter Report
Marsha Okada

Waikiki

Total 73
Award 12
IVV Credit 51 (23 members)
Free 10

Diamond Head

Total 95
Award 23
IVV Credit 55 (19 members)
Free 17

Kahala

Total 31
Award 2
IVV Credit 28 (13 members)
Free 1

Besides Canada, Japan, & Germany, walkers came from: CA, CO, FL, IL, MD, MN, MO, NC, NE, OR, SD, TX, UT, VA, WA, and WI. Ellen Callahan and Jim Tompkins of Langrey, WA did all 8 YRE, made a donation & wrote on start envelope: *"Thank you for the beautiful and diverse walks--a terrific way to see Oahu. This also completed our 51 Capitals/50 States book. The New Otani is a great place to stay."* Sent them a note with 2-50th State buttons to commemorate their achievement and to say mahalo. To share some humorous answers to Diamond Head Checkpoint 2: *"Forgot to write down but have a photo at the top with both of us in it." "Missed checkpoint 2--I had the directions in my pocket on the way up and completely forgot about a checkpoint. Remembered about half way down. Sure wasn't going back up." "Waikiki"--Guess we forgot to look." "No sign--no compass".*

Dawn

[continued]

Dawn Miyashiro passed away on March 7, 2008 at the age of 50. She was a long-time member of the Menehune Marchers and a staunch supporter of volkssporting.

In her earlier years as a volksmarcher she would quietly show up at events with her "walk-man" and walk by herself. Later on she brought her friend, Gordon Harada to walk with her. Gordon became a faithful supporter of Dawn and the club as Dawn felt comfortable to volunteer for various tasks. As Publicity and Media Coordinator she saw to it that our events were published in the Honolulu Weekly, Windward Press, etc. She later volunteered to be POC for the Manoa and the Downtown YREs.

Dawn suffered her first stroke in December of 2000. She was determined to walk again and was looking forward to doing all of the YREs. In a note to Marsha & Gilbert Okada she wrote: *"Although I could barely walk, I made every effort to leave Rehab within a week. Gordon and I will walk around Manoa during the weekdays since there's less traffic."*

Dawn had not fully recovered from her illness but she was more than willing to serve as President of the club from January 2003, to January 2004. In her messages as President, she always encouraged the members to bring a friend to our walks and to try out volksmarching. She made every effort to be there at our events; pleasantly greeting the walkers and helping out at the start/finish point"

Marsha Okada



Downtown 1st Quarter

Barbara Mateo-Kihano

Total Walkers:	70
Award:	11
IVV Credit	51
Free	8

Besides club members, we had walkers from FL, MI, NC, SD, TX, VA, WA, and international walkers from Denmark.

During this quarter, we also received monetary donations from Ellen Callahan, Jim Tompkins and club member Mark Luppino.

Dawn

[continued]



“Leading by doing and being ...”

Webster’s II dictionary describes the word LEAD as “to show the way to by going in advance.” These are my sentiments of our Past President Dawn Miyashiro.

During her term, she coordinated the first “club Christmas party/walk in December 2002. The 5K walk route/map was made member John Oszajca. It was Dawn who coordinated the party which was held at Zippy’s on 59 North Vineyard Blvd. All 31 walkers were presented with a snowman candy bar and the flyers for our Jan/Feb 2003 event by Dawn. All of us took home memories of a wonderful dinner with other club members and a festive Christmas lights walk in downtown. This event became the beginning of our club Christmas party/walk.

The YMCA Nuuanu was the site of our 2nd Christmas party/walk on Dec 19, 2003 with 45 participants that year. We even had members from the mainland join us that year.

On Dec 10, 2004, we continued with our 3rd Christmas party/walk with 45 participants who had a festive party with games, door prizes and entertainment by several of our club members.

Dec 10, 2005 the site of our 4th Christmas party/walk was at the Gordon Biersch Brewery Restaurant at the Aloha Tower Marketplace. There were 17 participants that year with President John Oszajca leading the way to fun and fellowship at the Gordon Biersch Brewery Restaurant.

Dec 6, 2006 was our 5th Christmas party/walk held at the YMCA Nuuanu with 43 participants. We out did ourselves that year, with white tablecloths, table decorations, great food and wonderful desserts. There was even a contest of “who was the best dressed in their Christmas finery!”

These are now only memories of the Past; however it was Dawn Miyashiro’s friendly smile, wonderful ideas of keeping members active with the club and her ability to come up with new ideas that made me realize just how special she was to our club”.

Barbara Mateo-Kihano

Kailua 1st Quarter

Maria Brasher

Total	46
Award	3
Credit	42
Free	1

Kona 1st Quarter

Terry Puuohau

Total	40
Award	9
Credit	31

Laie 1st Quarter

Maria Brasher

Total	61
Award	1
Credit	59
Free	1

[Honorary member-90 yrs. Old]
The State proposed development this summer will affect our walking Programs.

Manoa 1st Quarter

Lan Char

Total	42
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[with 13 from out-of-state-Minnesota, Texas, Washington, and 2 foreign country walkers-Denmark]

IVV Credit	25
Free	2

Volcano 1st Quarter

Terry Puuohau

Total	32
Award	4
Credit	21
Free	7

The continuous eruption of the volcano with its toxic fumes has affected the number of our walkers.

Waterfront 1st Quarter

Terry Puuohau

Total walkers	: 50
IVV Credit	47
Free	3

Milestones

April-May 2008 TAW

Events

30	Faye Miyamasu
200	Ruth Asakura
200	Gordon Tyau
275	Mark Brown

Distance

3500 KM	Gilbert Okada
5000 KM	Molly Brown

Club Officers

2007-2009

President	Mark Brown
Vice President	Carol Romig
Secretary	Lan Char
Treasurer	Terry Puuohau

Walkers from Wisconsin

Marsha Okada

John and Nancy Spaeni of Madison, Wisconsin were “thrilled” to have completed their 50th State Walk by climbing Diamond Head on March 19, 2008.



Their final e-mail message to Marsha read as follows

“ Thank you for all your helpful e-mails before we arrived and for meeting us at the zoo on the route to the Diamond Head YR.

“The hike up to the summit proved to be a bit of a challenge made easier and more fun because of you, your husband Gilbert, our son Steve, and our granddaughter Sarah were with us. Words cannot express the beauty around us as we stood on the summit. The hike up and down the left us feeling exhilarated.” (Both are 72 years young.)

“The celebration afterward sharing your icy cold pineapple chunks and our Bucky Badger Wisconsin cheese curds was a perfect way to end an already perfect adventure. We all enjoyed your company and I feel like I have a new friend...’til we meet again, in friendship and appreciation for your leadership”.-----Nancy and John Spaeni.

