



## Crime Prevention in the Cove

Recently, the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) requested that we provide an updated list of all the Neighborhood Security Watch (NSW) members. The list on file was several years old.

In 2003, Mariner's Cove started an e-mail alert system to notify residents of criminal incidents in the Cove. Approximately 50% of households in the Cove signed up for these alerts and the list has grown substantially over the years. A year or two later, HPD invited us to become an "official" NSW program. We gave people who were receiving the alerts the chance to belong to this group. Basically, members of the "official" NSW have taken an additional step to make their neighborhood safer. They have agreed to be the eyes and ears of the community, calling 911 when they see something suspicious. They also consented to have their names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses given to HPD for its records. HPD provided training for members so that they would know how and when to contact police. Members also got NSW stickers to display on their homes. Over the years, the two groups blended into one, especially after we began sending alerts via the website and Google Groups. As a result of the HPD request, e-mails were recently sent to everyone on the alert list to determine who wanted to become a member of the updated "official" NSW group. Eighty-six (86) individuals or families responded.

It's important to note that everyone will continue to receive the alerts, regardless if you are a member of the "official" NSW or not. The only differences are "official" members will receive NSW stickers for their homes and will also continue to receive weekly bulletins from HPD on crime trends on our district. Since we had enough people join the "official" NSW, we were able to request training from HPD. This is scheduled for Monday, July 11 at 7 p.m. Please see the notice in the Upcoming Events section for more information. People who are not members of the "official" NSW will also be welcome to attend the training, if there is space available. This will allow residents the opportunity to learn more about the NSW and how to protect themselves.

Among other things, HPD will discuss crime prevention strategies at this session. One of the topics will be how to avoid scams, such as those perpetrated by unsolicited/unlicensed workers who knock on doors to make repairs on your home or vehicles, paint, cut trees, etc. These home improvement scams are common island wide. Often the price quoted will be much lower than the residents expected – a deal "too good to be true." That's because it is! Some Cove residents have recently fallen victim to these scams. The first clue is usually that the stranger will ask for money up front to buy material for the project. Once you give them the money, you may never see them again. Even more alarming, the person may return and do a very small amount of the work, usually of inferior quality, and then disappear. If this happens, it becomes a civil, rather than criminal, matter and HPD cannot help you. To avoid being scammed, ask for a business card and/or references. Check them out before committing to any work. Don't rely only on a friend or neighbor who says he/she knows the person. You can also call the Better Business Bureau at 536-6956. Do not allow these strangers into your home, or even to look inside your house, unless you are sure they are legitimate.

## News From The Clubhouse

In the past, there have been requests by Cove owners and outside enterprises to use the club facilities for commercial activities, such as car washes, swimming lessons, Tai Chi, aerobics, other athletic classes/instruction, filming locations, etc. Requests were frequently submitted only days before the planned activity, which did not allow for sufficient time to research the intended use and determine if it would be beneficial to the goals of the association and meet legal/insurance requirements. In order to ensure equity to all, your Board recently voted to amend the rules pertaining to the clubhouse, pool, parking lot and surrounding areas. Effective immediately, no commercial or profit-making activities are permitted on MCBC property except as specifically approved by the Board of Directors on a case-by-case basis, and provided that the commercial provider pay a reasonable rental fee established by the Board and submit a valid certificate of insurance. Requests for a commercial activity must be submitted to the Board **at least 30 days prior** to the proposed commercial use. The complete rules are on the website – [www.marinerscovebayclub.org](http://www.marinerscovebayclub.org). Inquiries may be directed to John Brewer at [JohnB@hawaiianprop.com](mailto:JohnB@hawaiianprop.com). Please also remember that **there is no lifeguard on duty at any time**. Owners, tenants and guests use the pools at their own risk.

## Useful Contact Information

Contact Jo Ann Kocher at 395-1300 or [Tiger2Balm@aol.com](mailto:Tiger2Balm@aol.com) if you would like to be added to the "official" NSW. You can also report criminal activity or lost/found pets to Jo Ann. The e-mail alert system is only as good as the people who are in it. If you are the victim of a crime, or know of a neighbor who is, please report it and provide as much information as possible. This allows your fellow Cove residents to protect their homes. **However, please call 911 immediately if you see suspicious persons, vehicles or activity in the Cove.** If you have lost or found a pet, it also helps to provide as much descriptive information as possible.

Club manager, Joe Barros, can be reached on his cell phone - 753-6063- to schedule parties or other events, for questions about use of the facilities or to obtain the password for the WiFi connection at the clubhouse.

The Mariner's Cove Bay Club Association is now under full management by Hawaiian Properties. If you want to bring something to the attention of the board, please contact John Brewer at 539-9777 or [JohnB@hawaiianprop.com](mailto:JohnB@hawaiianprop.com). You can also use the link on the website.

Did your car break down on the freeway in rush hour? Free help is available by calling the Freeway Service Patrol at 841-HELP (4357). This is a service of the Hawaii Department of Transportation. Their website is <http://www.fsphawaii.com>.

Stuck in an airplane on the tarmac for hours? You can call the Flyers Rights Hotline at 1-877-359-3776 for assistance. Check what they can do at their website – [www.flyersrights.org](http://www.flyersrights.org).

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