

Newtown Reporter

Vol. 004 No. 2

March/April 2009

Hawaiiana Management Begins NECA Contract



On January 14, 2009, NECA President Donald Devaney, General Manager Richard Yamasaki, and members of the Budget and Finance Committee met with Phyllis Okada-Kacher and Ed Robinson of Hawaiiana Management at the company's main office. Ms. Okada-Kacher and Mr. Robinson provided the group with specific information about NECA's one year contract with Hawaiiana that began on December 1, 2008. Hawaiiana Management now provides a variety of monthly financial reports for NECA and has started an electronic bill payment service (SurePay) for quarterly assessments. Hawaiiana will provide an annual report to the Board and recommend a budget for the next fiscal year. The company will also organize the annual meeting of the Association and prepare and deliver notices of the meeting and proxy forms.

LEFT: Standing, L-R: Don Devaney, Anne Lopez, Ed Robinson, Phyllis Okaka-Kacher, Richard Yamasaki, Shizuko Hanaumi, Ellen Yogi. Kneeling: Thomas Kusatsu.

Meet Your NECA Staff

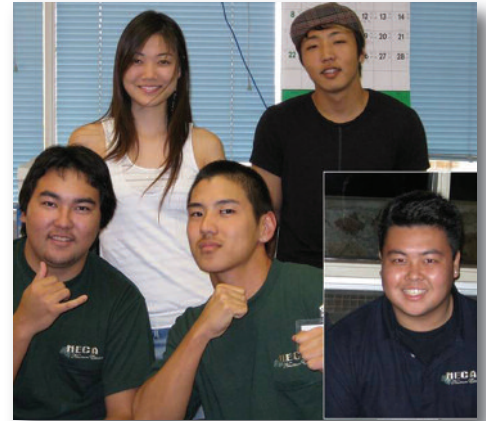
We just wanted to take a few moments to introduce you to your hard working NECA staff members. They're working to help create a better community for you. Next time you see one of them, be sure to say hello!

General Manager:	Richard Yamasaki
Program Director:	Jenna Wong
Athletic Coordinator:	Wendell Oi
Bookkeeper:	Debbie Jang
Covenants Inspector:	Melodie Beecroft
Office Clerk:	Octavia Villafana



Full Time Staff

BOTTOM RIGHT: Front: Wendell Oi, Octavia Villafana, Debbie Jang, Richard Yamasaki
BACK: Melodie Beecroft, Jenna Wong



Part Time Staff

BOTTOM LEFT: Front: Brycen Ho, Travis Nishida, Justin Okimoto (inset) BACK: Julie Shin (Assistant Bookkeeper) Thomas Hwang.

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98-456 Kaahale Street
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Newtown Estates Community Association

Board of Directors

President:	Donald E. Devaney
Vice-President:	Amy Dela Cruz
Secretary:	Diane Kazama
Treasurer:	Shizuko Hanaumi
Directors:	Sun Chong
	Dennis Hiu
	Lynn Park
	Bob Young
	Dennis Yuen

Association Staff

General Manager:	Richard Yamasaki
Program Director:	Jenna Wong
Athletic Coordinator:	Wendell Oi
Covenants Inspector:	Melodie Beecroft
Bookkeeper:	Debbie Jang

Recreation Center Hours of Operation

Administration & Bookkeeping Hours

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Information & Payment Hours

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Membership Application & ID Picture Taking

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Health Club & Athletic Court Hours

Monday – Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 9:45 p.m.

Swimming Pool Hours

Monday – Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Lap swim hours:

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Contact Information

NECA
98-456 Kaahale Street
Aiea, Hawaii 96701
Phone: 487-3806
Fax: 487-3000
Email: newtownestates@hawaii.rr.com
Website: newtownestates.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to our Newtown Estates ohana. The Board of Directors were sad, yet proud, to learn that Mark Takai has been called to active duty again to serve in Kuwait as a member of the Hawai'i National Guard. Mark has worked exceptionally hard on behalf of all his constituents, especially those of us in Newtown, concerning the traffic and transportation issues we are facing. He came to the January board meeting and explained that Ka'ahale is in for another re-stripping facelift that will improve traffic flow and safety. He estimates that the project will be completed by the end of the year. Honolulu City Council member Gary Okino also sent a letter to the community announcing the efforts being made to repave Ka'ahale. We shall keep an eye on these issues and at the same time pray that Mark's tour of duty goes by swiftly and he returns safely home to Hawai'i.

Our board continues to make impressive progress in executing its responsibilities. Especially commendable has been the community volunteer participation on our various committees. Volunteer contributions are extremely valuable and much needed. We have many professional residents, such as attorneys, architects, certified public accountants, school administrators, business leaders, and tradesmen donating their time and expertise, resulting in improved business processes and accountability that are easy to understand and monitor.

Some of the board met with the leadership at Hawaiiana Management at their corporate headquarters in Honolulu to go over in detail the contract we have entered into with them for our financial management. I am more confident than ever before that the financial reporting will be timely and easy for all of us to read and understand. Our goal is to have a financial report in your hands prior to the annual meeting as is done by so many of the other property management firms in Hawai'i.

We are in negotiations with Alphabeta, whose five-year lease with NECA expired on 28 February 2009. The contract had an automatic six-month extension, so the board believes we will have a new contract shortly.

The Budget and Finance Committee has done an awesome job reconciling accounts and completing overdue audits and submitting a timely budget. Following are some general objectives and conclusions of our financial position: We are a microcosm of our national situation. We are spending more money than we are bringing in or just breaking even. The past four years have been deficit years, and as the national government uses Social Security money to camouflage the red ink, so do we with our "reserve account." A healthy reserve account should increase about \$100,000 per year. Instead, we have been withdrawing funds. Our total reserve account is just over \$1,000,000 and in today's economy, that is not enough for a community of our size. The easy solution is to

raise the assessment, but that is not the right solution. This board has pledged not to raise the assessment. We need to reorganize, look at how we spend money, and start making cuts. With the experienced personnel we have working as volunteers I am confident that we can streamline the Recreation Center operation at a reduced cost and add to our reserve fund. This year we have a goal of adding \$20,000. That means walking the walk. No installation parties, elaborate Christmas parties, or other waste. It will add up sooner than later. I am asking NECA residents to be vocal in their support of cutting costs and not increasing the assessment.

The Board wishes to thank Bill and Marion Coste for their leadership on the Communications Committee. Communication with you, the resident, is improving all the time and the *Newtown Reporter* has taken on a new look, which reflects their talent, energy, and hard work.

We are pleased to announce that the administrative staff now has individual email accounts as follows:

Richard YamasakiGeneral Manager
email.....ryamasakineca@hawaii.rr.com

Debbie Jang.....Bookkeeper
email.....djangneca@hawaii.rr.com

Jenna Wong.....Program Director
email.....jwongneca@hawaii.rr.com

Melodie BeecroftCovenant Inspector
email.....mbeecroftneca@hawaii.rr.com

General Email:
email.....newtownestates@hawaii.rr.com

Don Devaney.....Board President
email.....ddevaney@hawaii.rr.com

The Program Committee had a trial run for a movie night designed to help residents get to know each other at a simple event: free movie with popcorn, snacks, and refreshments. More to follow on movie nights, but we think once a month will be fine.

In order that we do not operate in a vacuum, it is necessary to get NECA resident input. Let us know what is on your mind. The suggestion box in the Recreations Center is useful for those who use the exercise room, but this is the era of text messages, email, and instant communication. We encourage you to send your ideas or concerns to our General Manager, Richard Yamasaki, or to any member of the Board of Directors. You are promised a timely response.

Aloha,

Don

Don Devaney
President

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT



Aloha from the staff at the Newtown Recreation Center. We have been making good progress. While there is still much to be done, I would like to bring everyone up to date

on some items that are being worked on.

1. Roof problems: MRC Roofing was hired to repair some of the bad roof leaks, which are causing a lot of problems and are potential safety issues. We are looking into re-roofing the entire complex in the future as the present roof system is deteriorating.

2. Good news for the basketball players. The basketball court, which is heavily used every day, is scheduled to be upgraded. New backboards, rims, and safety pads have been ordered. Under consideration are the costs vs. benefits of resurfacing the playing court area and the relative importance of such a project compared to other maintenance needs.

3. The pool deck storage room doors and frames, which are severely rusted, will be removed and replaced. It will take approximately six to eight weeks for the new doors to arrive and be installed.

4. The Board will be reviewing proposals to improve our fire/smoke and security alarm system at the Recreation Center.

On another note, I have been asked to comment on problems with dogs here at Newtown. Complaints range from dogs running loose to dog poop in the yards, on the sidewalk strips of residents, and in our public parks. Dog owners, please keep your dogs secure and if you walk your dog, remember to bring a bag to pick up any poop.

Thank you.

Richard

Richard Yamasaki

Community Association Fundamentals

*From the Community Association Institute
www.caionline.org*

Each common-interest community has its own history, personality, attributes, and challenges, but all associations share common characteristics and core principles. CAI developed the Community Association Fundamentals to foster a better conceptual understanding of how associations function and the roles of residents and association leaders.

We hope this primer will help the Newtown Estate Community Association's residents and volunteers recognize the core principles at the heart of the community association model and, even more importantly, inspire effective, enlightened leadership and responsible, engaged citizenship.

1. Associations ensure that the collective rights and interests of homeowners are respected and preserved.

2. Associations are the most local form of representative democracy, with leaders elected by their neighbors to govern in the best interest of all residents.

3. Associations provide services and amenities to residents, protect property values, and meet the established expectations of homeowners.

4. Associations succeed when they cultivate a true sense of community, active homeowner involvement and a culture of building consensus.

5. Association homeowners have the right to elect their community leaders and to use the democratic process to determine the policies that will protect their investments.

6. Association homeowners choose where to live and accept a contractual responsibility to abide by established policies and meet their financial obligations to the association.

7. Association leaders protect the community's financial health by using established management practices and sound business principles.

8. Association leaders have a legal and ethical obligation to adhere to the association's governing documents and abide by all applicable laws.

9. Association leaders seek an effective balance between the preferences of individual residents and the collective rights of homeowners.

10. Association leaders and residents should be reasonable, flexible and open to the possibility—and benefits—of compromise.



Do you know this NECA Member?

This gentleman is one of many interesting residents who contribute to our community. He can be seen at the Recreation Center swimming endless laps in

the pool. Look for his profile in the next issue of *Newtown Reporter*.

Do you know a NECA resident who deserves recognition? If so, send an email to newtownstates@hawaii.rr.com and put *Newtown Reporter* in the subject line.

Thinking of Buying OR Selling A HOME???



Byron J. Park

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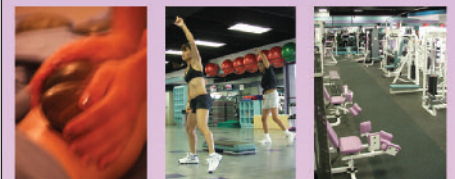


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Easter Egg Hunt

Parents, bring your children down to the Newtown Recreation Center to enjoy a morning full of Easter fun! Come join your neighbors in the annual Newtown Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4, 2009. Children can exchange the eggs they find during the Easter Hunt for a goodie bag.

The festivities will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. at the Newtown Recreation Center. To be eligible to participate, children must be 11 years of age or younger and have Recreational Facility membership. Please plan ahead if your child does not have membership. You may call the Front Office at 487-3806 for more details about the Facility membership process.

Children must be registered to participate and must check in no later than 9:50 a.m. on the day

of the event. Unfortunately, children who miss the check-in will not be allowed to participate in the event. Each child must bring his/her own empty Easter basket to use for the egg hunt. Registration and payment must be made at the Newtown Front Office by 5:45 p.m. Sunday, March 29. No refunds for cancellations made after the deadline will be given. Registrations are not transferable to other members. Each 'participant household' will be allowed to bring in 2 accompanying adults.

Give the little ones the opportunity to experience the happiness of Easter...register at the Newtown Front Office now! Hope to see all of you at Newtown's annual Easter Egg Hunt.

For more information, please contact the front office at 487-3806.



Bulky Item (Opala) Pickup



Monthly opala pickup for Newtown is scheduled for the fourth Monday of each month and conducted over a three to four day period. All items must be placed at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on the first day of the pickup window.

Mayor Mufi Hannemann has made regular monthly bulky item pickup a priority for all the island. The benefits of regular bulky item pickup are huge for NECA. Our streets and sidewalks can be clutter-free and safe, and we believe this will significantly reduce illegal dumping. It will only work if we all do our part to adhere to the schedule and place items at the curb only on designated days.

There's no excuse to dump on Hawaii. Collection services are readily available. Our garbage is collected curbside twice weekly, green waste twice monthly, bulky items monthly, and drop-off centers are available around the island. Please take the time to know the schedules and dispose of items properly. This is our home, our community, our island, and our responsibility is to care for its health and beauty.

The City of Honolulu provides for free collection of bulky items such as furniture, appliances, and mattresses. Most appliances are recycled. If your items are still in good, useable condition, contact organizations such as Goodwill and Salvation Army first.

Rules for Bulky Item Pickup

To help the city provide efficient service and to keep Newtown safe and attractive, you must follow these rules:

- Put items out for collection no earlier than the evening before your scheduled pickup day or period. Bulky items sitting at the curbside for long periods are unattractive, can be unsafe (especially for children), and can attract illegal

dumping at that site.

- Remove or secure doors of refrigerators. Children have been known to suffocate in refrigerators, unable to open the doors from the inside. Remove the doors, tie the refrigerator closed, or place the door against the ground or a wall to prevent it from opening

- Do not block sidewalks, driveways or roadways.

Questions and Answers about Bulky Item Pickup

Whose bulky items will be collected?

All households except those in dwellings owned by the State or Federal governments.

What will be collected as bulky items?

Furniture, mattresses, bed frames and box springs, rolled up and fastened carpeting, appliances, minor home repairs/remodeling materials not to exceed one cubic yard.

What will not be collected as bulky items?

Construction materials, demolition debris, dirt, rock, concrete, large automobile parts and any refuse suitable for regular twice-a-week collection.

What if I can't wait for my scheduled collection period?

If the schedule is not convenient for you, you are welcome to drop off your bulky items any of the city's Convenience Centers. There are 9 locations open seven days a week.

What if I miss the collection crew?

Your bulky items must be stored on your property (not at curbside) until the next month's scheduled collection.

Honolulu Star-Bulletin's Free "Recycler Ads"

For those wanting to give away an item for free, the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* offers a free "Recycler Ad" in the classified section. They will list the item for five days. Please call 529-4800 for details.

For further bulky item pickup information in the Aiea-Pearl City-Ewa area, call: 455-1725.

BOARD & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Architectural Committee

Reminder: ANY EXTERIOR CHANGES (including landscaping, door replacement, window replacement, and solar units) requires an approval and permit from the NECA Architectural Committee. The Architectural Committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month. All Architectural Applications need to be received by the SUNDAY before the meeting. Please remember to attach the \$25 architectural fee to the application.

Please refer to our pre-approved paint swatches and roofing materials, available at the Newtown Recreation Center, when repainting and/or re-roofing your residence.

Budget and Finance Committee

On December 30 2008, the Budget and Finance Committee approved the revised Accounting Policy for Expenditures and Authorizations for 2008-2009, and forwarded it for Board approval. Mr. Richard Yamasaki presented three proposals for repair and replacements of the sink counter and cabinets in the multipurpose room (party/rec room). The Committee approved Doctor Cabinet to do the work, subject to Board approval. A meeting with Alphabetland preschool's owners, Mrs. Arizala and her son Kyle, was scheduled to review the lease agreement with NECA, which expires this year.

General ledgers and budget reports for September, October, and November will be presented to the committee at the next meeting for review and approval. Residents reported they have been pleased with Hawaiiana's Surepay

system for paying quarterly assessments. The Treasurer's report was approved by the committee and forwarded for Board Approval.

Communications Committee

Our apologies to the homeowners for the inordinate delay in getting the NECA web site up and running. In the last issue of the *Newtown Reporter*, we targeted January 15th as an online date. We did not anticipate the problems involved with getting the NECA computer connected to the Internet. That has only recently been accomplished. The committee has, subject to BOD approval, designed the web site layout and our Webmaster, Jenna Wong, will be completing the details of design and uploading the data over the next few weeks. Our target date is now March 15, 2009. We feel certain that you will find this useful tool worth the wait. We continue to invite our members to submit suggestions regarding what material they would like to see included in either the *Newtown Reporter* or on the NECA website. Our goal remains to improve communications with the membership. Your participation and input are welcomed.

Covenant Enforcement Committee

The Covenant inspector assures that residents of the NECA community are in compliance with the rules and regulations of the association. Every resident should have a copy of the Newtown Estates Community Association Architectural Rules and Guidelines (ARG) a copy of the Newtown Master Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (MDCCR). These books are available at the

Newtown Recreation Center front office as a cost of \$10 each.

Sub Associations – All sub association resident need to comply with the rules and guidelines of both the Newtown Estates Community Association and the sub association in which they live.

Membership Policy Committee

The Membership Policy Committee met on January 8, 2009. The Committee is currently reviewing the Newtown Recreation Center Homeowner Facility Membership Form in order to make necessary changes. The committee also reviewed the Tenant Membership form and recommended not to make any changes.

The committee is currently addressing the concern about theft of personal information held at the Recreation Center and realized a need to have a study done by the General Manager and a policy developed to safeguard the information collected from homeowners. These and other related concerns will be discussed at the next meeting.

Another concern under discussion was the high cost of renting the party room at the Recreation Center. More information on members' rental use of the facility will be shared at the next meeting. A recommendation was made to allow a trial period of six months to have the ping-pong tables in the party room when it doesn't interfere with any other function being held there. In addition, the ping-pong tables will be made available to all members according to the current ping-pong rules.

Sub-Association Information

Sub-associations are separate entities subject to Newtown Estates Community Association governing documents. For questions or concerns regarding property or issues within a specific sub-association, please contact the managing agent for that association. Following is a list of sub-association agents and scheduled meetings. Please note: Dates and times of meetings may change without notice. If NECA members wish to attend a meeting, it is recommended they call the Managing Agent to verify the schedule.

Harbor Terrace
Management Specialists
Lester Higa 949-7611
Meetings Mar. 26 & Apr. 23, 6:45 p.m.

Hillside Terrace I
Certified Management
Lynn Germain 237-3335
Meeting Apr. 9, 6:00 p.m.

Hillside Terrace II
Certified Management
Reiko Marino 837-5232
Meetings Mar. 26 & Apr. 23, 6:30 p.m.

Hillside Terrace III
Certified Management
Reiko Marino 837-5232
No standing meetings

Hillside Terrace IV
Par Management, Inc.
Don Brough 951-8870
Meetings Mar. 19 & Apr. 16, 7:00 p.m.

Chateau Newtown
Hawaiiana Management
Kevin Cole 593-6369
Meetings Mar. 26 & Apr. 23, 7:00 p.m.

Newtown Villa I
King Street Properties LLC
Rand Totoki 531-0221
No standing meetings

Newtown Villa II
Hawaiian Properties
Chentelle Ramos 539-9548
Meetings held quarterly

Newtown Meadows
Hawaiiana Management
Ron Kobashigawa 593-9100
No meeting information

Ke Kumulani
Certified Management
Jennifer Alcantar 837-5202
Annual Meeting January 27, 6:15 p.m.

Newtown Keiki Club Day Camps

The Keiki Club Program will operate a 2009 Spring Day Camp from Monday, March 23 through Friday, April 3.

Spring Day Camp activities run from 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and include daily swimming in the Newtown pool, arts and crafts, indoor/outdoor games, one excursion a week... and more!

More information about the Keiki Club Spring Day Camp is available in the Spring Application/Information Packet now available at the front desk of the Newtown Recreation Center. Enrollment in the Keiki Club Program is on a first-come-first-serve basis. Full payment of \$100 per week (which does not include excursion fees) is required upon registering for the Program. Application deadline is Sunday, March 8. Any applications submitted after March 8 will be subject to a 25% late fee and will require the Program Coordinator's approval.

Please also be on the lookout for the '09 Summer Day Camp applications coming out mid-April. The children will enjoy activities, swimming, arts and crafts, plus TWO excursions a week!

For more information on this special keiki attraction, please call Jenna Wong at 487-3806 or email jwongneca@hawaii.rr.com.

NECA Programs & Activities

NECA Board and Committee Meeting Schedule

Please note: Dates and times of meeting may change without notice. If NECA members wish to attend a meeting, it is recommended they call the NECA Front Office 487-3806 to verify the schedule.

Board of Directors March 4 & April 1, 7:00 p.m.	Communications Committee March 10 & April 7, 5:30 p.m.	Membership Policy Committee March 12 & April 9, 7:00 p.m.
Architectural Committee March 18 & April 15, 7:00 p.m.	Covenants Enforcement Committee March 18 & April 15, 6:30 p.m.	Newtown Neighborhood Security Watch Thursday, March 19, 7:00 p.m.
Budget and Finance Committee March 31 & April 28, 7:00 p.m.	Greenbelt Committee March 11 & April 8, 7:00 p.m.	Personnel Committee March 19 & April 16, 7:00 p.m.
Building & Grounds Committee March 17 & April 21, 7:00 p.m.		Program Committee March 26 & April 23, 7:00 p.m.

Classes, Seminars & Workshops

Please drop by or call the Newtown Front Office at 487-3806 for more information regarding the activities listed below.

Aerobics

Instructor: Cindy Okido
Tuesdays and Thursdays
6:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Judo

Instructor: Max Otani
Mondays & Wednesdays
5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Kempo-Karate

Instructors: Terri & Anthony Smith
Tuesdays & Thursdays
4:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.
Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Yoga

Instructor: Keith Howe
Fridays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
March 6 to April 24, 2009
Cost: \$24.00
Registration deadline: March 4

Ballroom Dance

Instructors: Richard and Ruby Kazunaga
For information, call the front office at 487-3806

Power Yoga

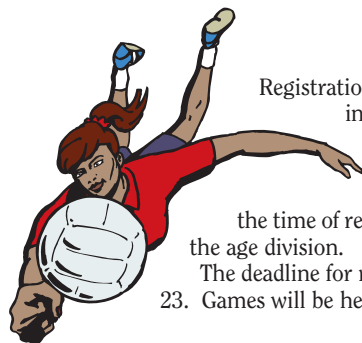
Instructor: Kiyoko Sieradzki
Tuesdays and/or Fridays 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Thursdays 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Please call the front office for dates.

Personal Training

Trainer: Aaron Sakai
By appointment only.
Call 398-4181 or email aaron-sak@yahoo.com

Refund Policy: Refunds are not given within two weeks of the activity's start date. Exceptions may be made for medical situations in which a doctor's note is presented.

Youth Volleyball



Registration is being taken at the front desk for girls and boys, ages 7-16, interested in learning how to play volleyball.

The registration fee is \$25.00, payable to NECA. A permission form (available at the front desk) and a copy of the player's birth certificate must be submitted at the time of registration. The player's age on January 1, 2009, will determine the age division.

The deadline for registration is March 16. Practice will start the week of March 23. Games will be held on Fridays. The league runs from April 17 to March 29.

DIVISION

1. Pinto (7-8 yr.)
2. Mustang (9-10)
3. Bronco (11-12)
4. Pony (13-14)
5. Palomino (15-16)

PRACTICE: DAY/TIME

- | |
|-------------------------------|
| Tues./Thurs. 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. |
| Mon./Wed. 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. |
| Tues./Thurs. 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. |
| Mon./Wed. 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. |
| Mon./Wed. 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. |

GAME TIME

- | |
|-----------------------|
| 4:30 and/or 5:30 p.m. |
| 5:30 and/or 6:30 p.m. |
| 6:30 and/or 7:30 p.m. |
| 6:30 and/or 7:30 p.m. |
| 7:30 p.m. |

Wanna Yoga???

Looking to find unity between your spirit, body, and mind? Need to 'de-stress' from your busy, chaotic week at work? Look no further...yoga is here at Newtown. Instructor Keith Howe takes a slightly athletic, but not too vigorous, approach to Yoga. You will learn and perform a variety of poses, non-reflective of any particular type of Yoga. The class will be fun and full of 'spiritual energy'. Each participant must bring his/her own mat to exercise on.

Spring I Session

Fridays: March 6 – April 24 (8 classes)
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Newtown's Rec. Center's Recreation Room
Cost of all 8 classes = \$24
(class fee will not be pro-rated)
Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 4

The class is open to NECA members with Recreational Facility membership and their guests. NECA members without facility membership and Non-member guests must pay an additional \$2 guest fee per class (to be collected by the instructor at the start of each class.)

Register and pay the Newtown Front Office by the deadline listed above. No refunds will be given for cancellations made within 2 weeks of the class start date.

There must be a minimum of 12 people registered per session to hold the class.

NECA Sponsored Programs Meeting Schedule

Boy Scout Troop #488

Fridays, 7:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.

Cub Scout Pack #488

Fridays, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

NECA Senior Citizen Club

Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Boy Scout Troop 488 News

By Jody Okamoto, Troop Patrol Leader and Star Scout

Physical Fitness

Troop 488 met on Sunday, November 30, 2008, at the Aiea High School track for annual physical fitness tests. Scouts Ethan Chow, Ryan Ebisu, Matthew Howell, Jarett Lau, Jensen Lee and Jody Okamoto attended and each Scout ran one mile, did pushups, pull-ups, sit-ups and standing long jumps. All Scouts did well and continue to improve their physical fitness.

Opala Service Project

On Saturday, December 6th, the Troop cleaned up Blaisdell Park. Eight Scouts and fourteen adult leaders and family members participated in this event. The Scouts attending were: Ethan, Matthew, Jarett, Jensen, Jody, Chasen Hamasaki, Travis Joe, and Christian Tengan-Horcajo. Service Projects are one of the ways for the Troop gives back to the community. The Scouts collected trash all around the park for about two hours. After the Scouts completed the opala pick-up, they went to the Newtown Recreation Center to share a warm lunch provided by the Troop.

Trolley Tour

NECA provided Troop 488 with complimentary seats on the Honolulu City Lights Trolley tour. The Motobu, Chow and Kojima/Gabriel families signed up for the December 14th event. It was reportedly an enjoyable ride. The decorations and lights were a sight to see and the snacks provided added a special touch. Thank you, NECA, for your support.

Inventory

The Troop did an inventory check on Saturday, January 3rd, 2009. It's the first time the Troop has checked their inventory in many years. It was determined that the Troop needs two new camping tarps.

DAV Camp

From Friday, January 9th until Sunday, January 11th, Troop 488 went camping at the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) campgrounds. Nine Scouts attended the DAV camp: seven Boy Scouts and two Webelos Scouts. The Boy Scouts who attended were Ethan, Matthew, Jensen, Jody, Chasen, Travis, and Christian. The two Webelos Scouts who attended this camp were Caleb Burnett and Marcus Young. Marcus and Caleb arrived Saturday afternoon at the DAV



camp. On Saturday morning, the Boy Scouts worked on their camping merit badge with Scoutmaster Walt Howell. Some other activities included demonstrating scouting skills for the Webelos Scouts, such as fire making, knot tying and how to care for your knife and other sharp tools. We also made hobo meals (hamburger meat, vegetables & seasoning cooked over an open fire), roasted marshmallows, performed skits and played Boy Scout bingo. On Sunday morning, everybody broke down camp and cleaned up the area. The Scouts and leaders also had time to play ultimate football before departing to the Recreation Center to unload our equipment.

Community Service Project

Troop 488 met at Kilinoe Street Park early Sunday morning on January 25th, to begin renovation and repair work. The Scouts replaced the boards surrounding the sandbox/playground area and repainted the picnic table and signs. This will be a two-part project to restore and clean up the park equipment. Scouts who participated were Ethan, Ryan, Matthew, Jensen, Jody, Chasen, Christian, Cedric Kojima and eight adult leaders and parents.

New Recruits Welcome

Troop 488 welcomes new boys into the Troop year round. The Boy Scout program is designed so that a boy can join anytime during the year and progress at his own pace. To join Boy Scouts, a boy must meet just one of the following criteria: (1) be at least 11 years old, (2) completed the fifth grade, or (3) achieved the Cub Scout Arrow of Light. Meetings are held on Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the Newtown Recreation Center. Troop 488 also welcomes adult volunteers who can help with teaching scouting skills. For further information, contact Scoutmaster Walt Howell at 888-3619.

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