

THE VOICE

"Coming together, uniting West Maui as ONE Voice"

PO Box 10338 ♦ Lahaina, HI 96761 ♦ www.WestMaui.org ♦ WMTA@maui.net

Newsletter of the West Maui Taxpayers Association – June 2015

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE by Rick Nava



Aloha,

As this is my first message as the President of the West Maui Taxpayers Association (WMTA), I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and what I hope to accomplish during my tenure as the President of WMTA.

I am very honored and happy to be elected by the Board Members of WMTA to be the President for 2015. From 1997-2001, I was a Board Member of WMTA. I am also a member of many other civic clubs/organizations. I served as a Police Commissioner from 1995-2000 and currently a Director of the Maui Chamber of Commerce, West Maui Improvement Foundation, Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce and the Maui Filipino Community Council. I have been a member of the Rotary Club of Lahaina since 1993 and served as the President in 2003-2004 and again on 2009-2010. For the last three years, I have been a tutor for the Lahaina Tutoring Project.

Last year, I ran for the West Maui Councilmember seat. Unfortunately, I wasn't successful. However, my commitment for a better West Maui remains. I've rejoined WMTA to continue what I've always done to make West Maui and the County of Maui my number one goal for improvement as outlined in the WMTA mission.

This year, we are looking forward to increasing our membership to help us accomplish our missions and also to have a greater VOICE in the County of Maui. I'm hoping that the people who supported me during my campaign, *Team Nava*, will join me in the WMTA as a way of supporting our community.

Also, for this year, we want to hold more events and activities that will bring community leaders and elected officials to West Maui. By sponsoring such events as these, it will give the people of West Maui the opportunity to ask questions and be informed of governmental matters, or just talk story and enjoy the time that we are all working together for a better West Maui.

This Monday, June 29, 2015, WMTA will be hosting Mayor Alan Arakawa for breakfast at *Slappy Cakes*. Information regarding this event is in the newsletter. We hope that you will join us for breakfast with the Mayor.

This event is Free for WMTA members and designed to encourage our member participation as well as attracting new members. The WMTA engine is fueled solely by membership dues and donations. We want to raise enough money via additional memberships and donations to hire an Executive Director once again. We need to double our current \$27 K budget to do that and kindly request your consideration by sending WMTA an additional donation. Existing membership dues are insufficient. Please tell your friends and associates to consider joining WMTA. We have a long distance to go and more financial fuel is desirable and necessary to get us to our destination. Mahalo

Thank you for your confidence in me. If you need to contact me, you can email me at rick@msimaui.com or call me at 808-298-3953.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Nava". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rick" being more prominent.

President, WMTA



WEST MAUI TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Proudly Present

Breakfast with the Mayor



When: MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2015
Where: Slappy Cakes, Honokowai
Time: 7:30 AM- 9 AM

"BREAKFAST BUFFET WITH BREAKFAST MEATS AND "FIXIN'S"
Beverages of Coffee & Tea and juice included...

Cost:

Adults \$10.00
Children 12 & Under \$5.00
WMTA Members - Free

RSVP online at
westmaui.org

Slappy Cakes

ALL DAY BREAKFAST
ALL DAY FUN!

808-419-6600

www.SlappyCakes.com

3350 L Honeapiilani Rd #701 Lahaina, HI 96761



Seating limited to first 100 to RSVP, Contact us today to reserve your seats!!
Please call WMTA at (808) 661-7990 to RSVP for the Event or Email to : wmta@maui.net

(Non-members can join for an annual membership of at least \$25/person and Breakfast will be free!)



MEMBERSHIP REPORT by Joseph Pluta, Treasurer

The WMTA has an ambitious goal this year to substantially increase membership and participation amongst our community supporters. The “Breakfast with the Mayor,” Information attached herein on June 29th is a beginning. We will plan on additional quarterly breakfasts with our State and County Government leaders building upon this initial kick off with Slappy Cakes Restaurant.

On June 11th, the Mayor’s “Friends of Alan Arakawa,” paid for publishing a full page Advertisement in the Maui News entitled “To the Maui County Community.” The entire letter is featured on our WMTA web site at www.westmaui.org and we respectfully suggest that you read it. There are some very significant issues that the WMTA believes require attention from the Maui County Council Members who deleted many of the Administration requests in their review of the Budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

It’s been previously stated that “You simply cannot afford NOT to be financially supporting the West Maui Taxpayers Association.” Why? Because they have already saved every property owner more that 500% of what an annual membership fee cost is and their efforts continue to do that and more for the West Maui Community. While saving money has been important, our efforts have literally saved priceless lives as seen in the Napili Fire and Ambulance Station and a positive certificate of need approval for the upcoming West Maui Hospital. We have more to do and need your help. Please make it a point to review our web site at www.westmaui.org in the “About us” tab and click “Accomplishments” in the drop down menu. In the past, WMTA has not made an issue of publishing our successes enough according to those who have recently reviewed our lists of accomplishments.

We appreciate the challenges ahead of us as opportunities to engage our community.

We are now enjoying new encouragement support to do so in accordance with membership growth objectives based on the numerous compliments we have received from those who have reviewed our accomplishments and feedback on how important WMTA involvement has been to improve the quality of life here.

You are receiving this Newsletter because you are a dues paid member of the WMTA. Please accept our thanks and if you reside on Maui, join us for Breakfast on June 29th at Slappy Cakes Restaurant.

It’s time that we all recognize that financially supporting the WMTA may be one of the most important investments that could be made to enhance and support a vibrant West Maui Community.

Please tell your friends about WMTA and encourage your friends and neighbors in West Maui to join in with you in supporting the WMTA! Our track record speaks for itself.

Is there anything you are concerned about in Maui County, especially impacting West Maui, that you would like WMTA dedicated involvement or assistance? We would love to hear from you and encourage you to do so with an additional donation to help us continue to help accordingly.

Together, we CAN make a difference.

WEST MAUI HOSPITAL UPDATE by Joseph Pluta

There is lots of good news about progress towards the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center becoming a Reality. On May 26, 2015, I was the sole testifier in support of the three bills necessary to be approved on second reading by the Maui County Council for all the land entitlements for the facility. In addition to our support, it was also very important to have on the record the fact that we are all deeply indebted to A. James Wriston III, who as president of Kaanapali Development Corp. (KDC) when WMTA and WMIF began efforts for a West Maui hospital, personally convinced his employers to enter into a Land Donation Agreement with the West Maui Improvement Foundation Inc. for a West Maui Hospital which literally birthed the bonafide interest and support to begin the 15 + year effort to get us where we are today. Mr. Wriston ironically called an ambulance from his home in Napili a few years later and it took more than 2 hours from the time 911 was called for the ambulance to get him to Maui's one hospital in Wailuku. He did not survive. He was a good friend and his contribution was essentially vital to our ultimate goal. At the Kaanapali 2020 Community planning group meeting June 10, 2015 West Maui Hospital Foundation Board member, Howard Hanzawa, reported on behalf of developer Brian Hoyle, that the final County Planning commission hearing on the matter was coming up on June 23rd. We will be there to testify our support. Mr. Hanzawa said that Mr. Hoyle was pushing plans forward which are nearly 50% completed at this time for the hospital for submittals to all the County of Maui Review Agencies. He also stated that it's hoped that site grading permits will be obtained within the next 90 days as well. The K2020 group was requested to come up with 5 Hawaiian Street names which had health and wellness meaning for the 15 acre site.

WMTA GOALS AND OBJECTIVES STRESSED TO MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL RECENTLY

The Maui County Council received Testimony from WMTA directors at recent County Meetings. WMTA Director, Paul Brown Testified for Lower Honoapiilani Road Improvements and funding assistance for the Northward Extension of the Kapalua Coastal Trail which are included in the WMTA Goals and Objectives. Director Brown's Testimony can be seen in full at our web site at www.westmaui.org.

Please see the WMTA Goals and Objectives on our web site at www.westmaui.org and let us know if you want us to add any new issues therein. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

West Maui Taxpayers Association
MEMBERSHIP FORM - IRS EIN 99-0160368 - NON PROFIT 501C (4)
 You can also pay online at www.westmaui.org/joinnow.html

Member Name: _____ Email: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____
 Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Check here to have your name kept private in publications and acknowledgements.
 Check here to have your e-mail address added to our "WMTA E-Alerts" List

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| <p>\$ _____ MEMBERSHIP</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am a member and renewing my dues <input type="checkbox"/> I am not a member but would like to join</p> | <p>Membership Levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Community Supporter \$25/year <input type="checkbox"/> Community Leader \$50.00/year <input type="checkbox"/> Families \$100/year <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses \$100/year <input type="checkbox"/> AOA0 – email wmta@maui.net |
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\$ _____ DONATION WMTA is a 501-c-4 Non Profit Organization. "Contributions to civic leagues or other section 501(c)(4) organizations generally are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. They may be deductible as trade or business expenses, if ordinary and necessary in the conduct of the taxpayer's business." (Source: IRS.Gov). Please check with your tax adviser.

Memberships effective for one year upon receipt of membership dues payment.
Mail Checks, payable to "West Maui Taxpayers Association", to:
 West Maui Taxpayers Association PO Box 158 • Lahaina, HI 96761

NWS2015-05

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 A 501-C-4 Community Organization

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Visit www.WestMaui.org
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Look for us on

 and  **Twitter**
 (www.WestMaui.org has links)