



MĀLAMA IKA HONUIA

Cherish The Earth

JOURNAL OF THE SIERRA CLUB

HAWAI'I CHAPTER

Volume 41 • Number 2

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Big Shoes to Fill

Robert D. Harris Takes Over for Jeff Mikulina

The Hawai'i Chapter of the Sierra Club is pleased to announce the appointment of Robert D. Harris, a local environmental attorney and long time Oahu volunteer, as its new statewide Director. He takes over after a tremendously successful decade under the prior Director, Jeff Mikulina.



"I feel privileged to be given the opportunity to serve as the Director of this outstanding organization," said Harris. "I have always admired the Sierra

Club for its contributions to Hawai'i's environment and look forward to working with the Club's exceptional volunteers," added Harris.

"Robert is a natural fit with the Sierra Club," said Lucienne DeNaie, Chair of the Hawai'i Chapter. "Robert's legal and scientific background and familiarity with the organization give him the opportunity

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Jeff Mikulina, Garry Gill, and Lucienne DeNaie enjoy the party

40th Anniversary

A Smashing Success!

By Julie Shiohita

Mahalo to our sponsors and volunteers who helped make the Sierra Club's 40th Anniversary a tremendous success. With over 200 people in attendance, the gathering at the Ko'olau Golf Club was a great way to celebrate the numerous achievements and successes the Sierra Club has had protecting and advocating for Hawai'i's environment.

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The Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter, is Hawai'i's largest grassroots environmental advocacy organization

INSIDE: Post Holiday Gift Guide • Vote By Mail • Outing Plans

Deadline for next *Mālama*

March 1, 2009

MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

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The *Mālama* is now online in PDF format (www.hi.sierraclub.org/Malama/malama.html).

All members are invited to contribute items to *Mālama*. Articles should be sent via e-mail to: hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org.

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40th Anniversary

Continued from front page

In addition to recognizing Honorary Chairs, Dave Raney, Lola Mench and Lorin Gill for their tremendous contributions to the Sierra Club's early days, special recognition awards were also presented to Representative Cynthia Thielen, Jim & Cindy Waddington, Reese Liggett and Suzan Harada, and Steven Tearney.

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Hawai'i Service Trip Program

Sierra Club Outings

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Environmentalists Honored on Kaua'i



Awards to individuals honored for exceptional contributions to protecting the environment were presented by elected decision makers at Kaua'i Group's annual picnic. Left to right are Councilwoman JoAnn Yukimura, Rep. Mina Morita, Pono Award recipient Keone Kealoha, Environmentalist of the Year Rich Hoepfner, Young Activist Award recipient Andrea Brower, and Senator Gary Hooser. (Photo by Josh Atkinson). *See a full description on Page 20.*

Big Shoes to Fill

Continued from front page

to take the Sierra Club to new levels. His energy and enthusiasm are a welcome addition to our organization.”

“Growing up in Kailua, I remember my father taking me on Sierra Club hikes and teaching me about Hawai‘i’s fragile ecosystem,” said Harris, “I look forward to applying my knowledge and energy to help build the organization so that the Club can continue its work in Hawai‘i for generations to come.”

Harris is familiar with Hawai‘i’s unique environment. A graduate of Kalaheo High School, Harris went on to attend the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in

chemistry/environmental science. While at UH, he volunteered with the Youth for Environmental Services and worked at the Lyon Arboretum.

Upon graduation, Harris spent a year working for the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. He then entered the William S. Richardson School of Law with a focus on environmental law. He interned with the Hawai‘i Attorney General’s office, assisting on clean water enforcement cases, and worked for the Hawai‘i branch of Earthjustice Legal Defense. He also began the first of several years of service on the O‘ahu Group’s ex-com.

Following law school, Harris clerked for the Honorable Supreme Court Justice Simeon Acoba, Jr., and then joined a local law firm, Damon Key Leong Kupchak Hastert. While working for this law firm, Harris become involved in environmental litigation, including representing Defend Oahu



Hibiscus Waimeae grown in front of Harris’s house, looking out on Kamehameha Highway in Kahalu`u. The beauty of this flower, including its incredible and unique scent, are part of the reason that Harris developed a love for growing native plants.

Coalition in an on-going motion to reclassify 236 acres of land at Turtle Bay.

Harris has a strong personal interest in Hawai'i's native plants and considers himself an amateur ethno botanist. "I find myself spending as much of my free time as possible working on my garden. It's a delight to learn about the cultural uses of the

Harris believes it is important for the Sierra Club to put more focus into empowering and developing its volunteers. "There seems to be a tremendous resurgence of interest in green issues. It is vital the Sierra Club harness this energy and get people involved in our outings, the High School Hikers program, and develop future advocates that will help protect Hawai'i's environment."



Above is a blossoming yellow Ohia Lehua in Robert's yard. According to legend, Ohia and Lehua were two lovers separated by the goddess Pele. Pele desired Ohia and when she could not have him she turned him into a tree. Lehua was devastated by this transformation and out of pity the gods turned her into a flower and placed her upon the Ohia tree. It is said that when a lehua flower is plucked from an Ohia tree, the sky fills with rain representing the lovers' tears. (Source—http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ohia_lehua)

plants and feel like I'm helping restore a little bit of Hawai'i near my house." Harris's interest in botany ties into personal goals of attempting to encourage the use of native plants in everyday use. "It's plain silly that the State is purchasing invasive species to use in landscaping of its roads and buildings." Harris notes that "Native plants not only need to be cultivated and protected, they are frequently better adapted to Hawai'i's unique climate conditions and don't need extensive watering."

Harris has introduced an externship program through the University of Hawai'i and intends on continuing to develop new means to incorporate volunteers into Sierra Club activities. This includes developing the Sierra Club's on-line activities and utilizing new social services like Facebook. For example, you can now join the Hawai'i Chapter "group" in Facebook and learn about new events and activities in a more timely manner.

If you have any suggestions or tips for Robert Harris, he can be reached at 538-6616. His email is robertharris@mac.com. He eagerly looks forward to working with you.

To stay up to date with legislative developments (starting on January 21, 2009), please visit

www.hi.sierraclub.org/capitol

If you would like to receive capitol watch email action alerts, please send an email to

hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

Chapter Fund Appeal Falls Short

By Annette Kaohelauii

The 2008 Hawai'i Chapter fund appeal has a goal of \$36,000. In December, we will be sending another year end appeal letter in hopes of reaching that goal. Sierra Club depends on the money raised in our annual fund appeal to fund the Chapter office and our many efforts to protect the environment in Hawai'i.

In order to give our members a tax deductible option, the year end appeal will be to replenish our Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter Foundation account. Since the foundation account is a 501 (c) (3) account, funds are restricted to educational and legal efforts. We can not fund operational or lobbying expenses with (c)(3) funds. However, some portions of the Malama I Ka Honua, the Chapter newsletter, are educational and can be reimbursed from foundation funds.

One of the ways you can help the Hawai'i Chapter with 501(c) (4) funds, which are not deductible, is to become a member of our pledge hui where you can have a set amount each month deducted from your credit card or checking account. It is our hope to cover the Chapter office expenses, such as office rent, telephone, computer and mailing costs with the pledge funds. A dozen new pledgers will help us achieve that. It will be like Christmas every month for Sierra Club!

Remember, if you donate at \$12 a month or \$144 a year, you will be eligible for Kahu Aina or 'our stewards for the land' status. Kahu Aina members get invitations to some really neat tours and events. (See the article by Andrea Jepson on the sustainable homes tour held in October.) In early 2009, the fundraising team will be doing a special Kahu Aina sustainable tour on the Big Island. Kahu Aina members will meet at the trailhead near Hilo for a tour of an organic farm and sustainable home. Lunch will be provided and the tour will include

suggestions for other sustainable activities to fill your weekend.

Do your tax deductible donation or pledge before the end of the year. Please call Annette Kaohelauii at 235-5431 or Julie Shiohita at 537-9019 for more information on how you can help Sierra Club protect Hawai'i's unique environment.

The Fundraising Committee thanks you.

Sustainable Home Tour

The following is a thank you letter to Hawai'i Chapter Fundraising Chair Annette Kaohelauii from one of the Kahu 'Aina members who took advantage of the opportunity to do the Sustainable Home tour. Donors of \$132 a year or just \$12 a month will be considered special donors and become part of Kahu 'Aina. Kahu 'Aina members will receive invitations throughout the year to special events like this tour. A similar tour to be held in 2009 on the island of Hawai'i is in the works. We will visit an organic home and garden in Pahoa. Now would be a good time to make sure your donations to Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter meet the \$12 a month test.

Dear Annette,

Thank you so much for arranging the Sierra Club's Kahu 'Aina Sustainable Home Tour on Saturday, October 25th. I am sure that the 20 Sierra Club folks, lucky enough to visit Betty and Mike Gearen's "Green House" in Pauoa Valley and John and Anne Harrison's reconstituted Ossipoff home in Nu'uuanu Valley would all agree that it was an exciting day. Learning has never been so much fun or so delicious.

Pulling away from the Sierra Club office in a caravan of Prius, (or is that Prii) certainly set the tone for taking it easy on the planet.

John and Anne Harrison were so welcoming with cool drinks and comfortable seating for all in their airy living room. The creative story of the technical redesign of their home, which included a bank of photovoltaic panels supplying almost all of their energy, was fascinating.

Continued on page 8

Vote By Mail?

By Lance Holter

All of Hawai'i experienced a dismal voter turnout for the 2008 primary election. On Maui it was a pathetic 25% of eligible voters and statewide it was 37%. We need a big idea to change the participation for the next round of elections in 2010 (where we will be electing our next Hawai'i Governor).

One way to increase voter participation would be to have Hawai'i go to a direct mail-in ballot system like the state of Oregon did in 1997. When the State shifted to that system turnout increased and Oregon had the third highest turnout in the Country for the 2004 election at 71%. Further, voting by mail has reduced election costs from \$4.33 per vote down to \$1.24 per vote according to the State of Oregon and improved voter satisfaction.

In the study "Five years later: A re-assessment of Oregon's Vote By Mail Electoral Process" by Priscilla L. Southwell, University of Oregon (2003), the voting process is described and voter satisfaction detailed. The study and survey found that almost 90% of voters over 65 years of age and those under 25 preferred voting by mail as opposed to voting at a precinct polling place. "One third of the respondents to the survey stated they vote more often with the vote by mail -- particularly women, the disabled, homemakers and those aged 26-38 years old."

I wanted to get a first hand report on the Oregon experience so I called the former Hawai'i Campaign Spending Executive Director, for 11 years, Bob Watada, now retired and living in Oregon. As I called he was harvesting Fill Burt nuts on his small farm attempting to salvage some from the squirrels and blue jays that were competing for the nuts with Bob and his wife Rosa. I asked Bob what the process was like..."very, very easy" he

said. I asked how do you get registered and he said at "...most banks, the Post Office, Drivers License bureaus and libraries" to name some locations. "The cut off is October 14th before the November 4th election and it is well advertised on the radio and in the newspapers. You receive a confirmation card in the mail and the ballot is mailed three weeks before the election. If you don't get a ballot in the mail or you register too close to the election or you don't mail your ballot in by four days before the election there is walk-in voting available and you can always just choose to vote at a polling place."

I was concerned about voter fraud in Oregon. When I asked Bob about this, he said he hadn't heard or read of any instances. He also said if you spoil a ballot you could just call for another. In fact he felt vote by mail was better because there is a paper trail after your vote. The "Oregon voter registration card" required a valid drivers license number, or the last four digits of your social security number. You could also provide one of the following: a valid photo ID; a paycheck stub; a utility bill; a bank statement; or a government document. Very, very easy.

Considering Hart InterCivic wants to charge Hawai'i 43 Million Dollars for their voter services and machines I think Hawai'i must seriously consider vote by mail and have it in place for the next election. Further, I watched the polls this primary and had poll watchers volunteer at 26 other polling precincts in Maui County. The poll workers told me they need more ballot scanning machines (most precincts have only one) and extra poll worker telephones because they expect this General Presidential Election to be a doosey. I hope Hart InterCivic steps up to the plate.

Sustainable Home Tour

Continued from page 6

I suspect that as the former director of the University of Hawai'i Environmental Center, John understood there was a lot to take in and we were all grateful for the informative handouts. As we departed, we were treated to a tour of the garage where the batteries that store the power before it is distributed throughout the house or into the net metering system are located. Nearby I noticed that the Harrison's have two Prius'.

At Betty and Mike's house, it was inevitable that we end up in their gorgeous organic garden and then with umbrellas raised against the steady downpour, we checked out the expanding community garden behind their house. Interesting to hear that that common area behind the houses surrounding the garden was once used as a back alley road.

Everything at their green house bespeaks their commitment to sustainability and living life artfully. A Prius out front of course, solar panels, an electric bike, informative posters used in Betty's recycling classes, recycled art and much more.

The "Licious Dishes lunch of butternut squash curry "rice" and green salad was such a good idea. Raw food lives! (quite literally). I had a great time talking to the other participants about how delicious it was and wondering how we could recreate it.

Please extend our thanks to all involved in this "incentive" trip especially you, our illustrious leader.

Enjoy Madagascar

By Annette Kaohelaulii

The O'ahu Group and the Hawai'i Audubon Society are joining forces in 2009 to provide informative monthly programs on conservation issues, travelogues and scientific lectures to our members. These programs will be coordinated by Arlene Buchholz, Program Chair for Hawai'i Audubon Society and Annette Kaohelaulii, volunteer for Sierra Club. If you have an interesting topic for a program, please contact Arlene or Annette with your ideas and to make arrangements for scheduling. Programs will usually be held on the UH campus, but we may also use other venues, so check your newsletters and the Sierra Club web site at www.hi.sierraclub.org or Hawai'i Audubon Society's web site at www.hawaii-audubon.com for current program information each month.

On Friday, January 16, at 6:30 p.m., the first joint program will be a travelogue on Madagascar presented by Jonathan Rossouw. The program will begin at St. John's Hall (Botany Department) in the auditorium at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa campus. There is no charge to attend this event.

Jonathan Rossouw is a medical doctor by profession; however, his lifelong passion for wildlife led him to trade in his stethoscope for binocular and take up a full-time career in the expedition travel industry. Since 1997 he has guided wildlife expeditions throughout the globe, and has gained experience with over 7000 bird species and 700 animal species in the process. Jonathan has co-authored birding site guides to Southern Africa and Madagascar, and his guidebook *Where to Watch Birds in Uganda* is widely acclaimed as one of the finest site guides ever published. Jonathan is equally enthusiastic about mammals and coral reef fishes as he is with his specialties, birds and reptiles; indeed, he has an infectious curiosity and passion for all aspects of natural history. Jonathan is a director of Zegrahm & Eco Expeditions; he leads travelers on expeditions to all seven continents and scouts new destinations for Eco Expeditions.

Directions to St. John's: From the corner of University Avenue and Dole Street turn right, then take the next left (second stop light) on East West Road. Parking fee is \$3.00. Take a left at the first stop sign at the corner of East West Road and Maile Way. St. John's is on the Ewa-Mauka corner. Park along the street. The auditorium is located down the steps to the lower level. If you are lost, you may call Annette at 224-1393 for guidance.

Come out on a Friday evening and you will enjoy a fascinating get away to another part of the world.

Membership or address questions?

Need to change your address?

Contact: address.changes@sierraclub.org

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Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968 **or visit our website** www.sierraclub.org

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O'ahu Group Report

By Randy Ching, O'ahu Group Chair

The 2008 elections brought 6 new members to the House of Representatives. Among them are two Sierra Club endorsed candidates, Jessica Wooley (District 47) and Chris Lee (District 51). All of the endorsed incumbents won in both the House and Senate, with the exception of Ron Menor. Another good year for candidates endorsed by the Sierra Club.

Looking forward to 2009, here are some of the issues that the Oahu Group will be working on:

Draft EIS for Rail

Comments are now due by February 6, 2009. The Draft EIS for rail transit is available at honolulutransit.com. Your comments will play a huge role in how rail transit is built. The Oahu Group position is at <http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/oahu/nonPermanent/transit/position.html>

Please send comments to:

Mr. Wayne Yoshioka, Director
Dept. of Transportation Services
City and County of Honolulu
650 S. King St, 3rd Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813
768-8303

Please send copies of comments to OEQC and to:

Mr. Ted Matley
FTA Region IX
201 Mission Street, Suite 1650
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 744-3133

Koa Ridge

Castle and Cooke Homes applied (again) to the Land Use Commission (LUC) to rezone 1200 acres from ag to urban in its Koa Ridge Makai property. The Sierra Club filed a Notice of Intent to intervene before the LUC. This is an important case because of the potential loss of prime ag lands, the impact on traffic, water usage and the addition of infrastructure needed to serve the development. We do not need more sprawl in central Oahu. Development should be along the rail corridor or infill/re-development in urban Honolulu.

The Oahu Group is looking at hiring an attorney to work on the contested case. If you would like to support our efforts before the LUC, please make a check out to Sierra Club, Oahu Group w/ Koa Ridge on the memo line and send it to

SCOG, P.O. Box 2577
Honolulu, HI 96803

Green Design Standards

The Oahu Group is part of an informal group of designers, engineers and government planners looking at design standards for commercial buildings. The City Council introduced Bill 87 in 2006 mandating LEED standards. That bill went nowhere, but a group of people interested in making commercial buildings more energy- and water-efficient formed a design standards forum to push "greener" ways of building. Whether it be incentives or mandates or some combination, the Oahu Group is looking for ways to save energy, water and money in new buildings.

If you are interested in this issue, please contact Kim Kido at kidokimb@hawaii.edu. Kim is an engineer and very active in the forum. This is one of our priority issues.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

The Oahu Group is supporting efforts to ban plastic bags and Styrofoam. We are also encouraging our members to follow the 3 R's: reduce, reuse, recycle. Curbside recycling will be going island-wide starting this year and should be in your neighborhood no later than 2010.

This is an important issue as each Oahu resident generates about 9 pounds of trash per day. This is more than any place in the country. We produce over 3000 pounds of rubbish per person per year! This puts tremendous pressure on the Waimanalo Gulch landfill.

If you are interested in this issue, please contact Betty Gearen at bettygearen@hawaiiantel.net or Lydi Morgan at lydi_morgan@yahoo.com. Both are veterans of the 3 R's campaign.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Global Warming

This is a statewide issue, but since Oahu has most of the people and most of the emissions, this is also an Oahu Group issue. The Sierra Club helped enact legislation to track carbon dioxide emissions and to install solar water heaters on new homes. Both of these laws will help us to mitigate the effects of global warming. The average Oahu household uses 35 - 40% of its electricity to heat water. The installation of solar panels will not only save money and energy, but it will also reduce global warming impacts. The Oahu Group will continue to advocate for effective energy solutions. If you'd like to learn more, please contact Karen Shishido at karenshishido@yahoo.com. She is the resident expert.

Making Oahu bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly

We are advocates for safe streets - safe for pedestrians, safe for bicyclists. Since Charter Amendment 8 passed overwhelmingly in November 2006, the Oahu Group has been pushing for better planning, design and engineering of our built environment as well as more funding for such projects as Safe Routes to School. This is encapsulated in Complete Streets (for more info, go to <http://www.completestreets.org/howtogetto.html>).

Moku Loa Group Report

CHAIR REPORT by Paul Campbell

Well, the darkness is past and a new light now shines! Regardless of who we voted for or how the economy readjusts, environmental and social justice issues remain large on the horizon. It is our hope of the first magnitude that local, national and global leaders unite in their efforts to address head-on the issues of our time: global warming, war, alternative fuel development, sustainable growth and environmental degradation.

On Hawai`i Island, Moku Loa Group leaders and members look forward to working with our newly-elected representatives and environmental allies to address these issues with a new resolve and renewed vision. Let's hand to the children seven generations hence a restored, balanced and sustainable environment. Yes we can, and we will!

Sierra Club Hawai`i has a new Executive Director in Robert Harris. Welcome aboard, Robert! Jeff Mikulina, our Director for the past decade, has stepped down to assume the position of Director of the Blue Planet Foundation. Mahalo, Jeff, for your excellent guidance and hard work these past ten years. Sail on, Brother!

Finally, it has been my supreme privilege to have served as your group Chair these past three years. I will be staying on as Membership Chair until the expiration of my term in December '09. With your help, we have pulled off some mighty victories for the `aina!

Mahalo Nui Loa. Paul

MEET OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, by Phil Barnes

After ten years as the Executive Director, Jeff Mikulina has taken a new position. We are all happy that he will still be fighting to protect Hawai`i's environment, but in a new capacity. Our new Executive Director is Robert Harris. Robert is an active member of the Oahu group and has been practicing law in Hawai`i for the past five years. He is a former clerk of the State Supreme Court and has also worked for Earth Justice. He will give you more of his bio in person. He will be meeting with members at the Kea`au Community Center Monday, January 5, at 7:00 pm. He very much wants YOU, the members, to help chart the future direction of the Club. He is particularly interested in establishing a new active relationship with the outer islands. Youth outreach and statewide activities are just two areas that he would like to pursue. Please come and share your mana`o and help to move the club forward in this post-Bush era. For further details call Phil Barnes (965-9695).

THIRTY METER TELESCOPE (TMT) SHOULD BE BUILT – ON ANOTHER MOUNTAIN!, by Nelson Ho and Deborah Ward, CoChairs, Mauna Kea Issues Committee, Hawai`i Chapter, Sierra Club

This is not a matter of being for or against Astronomy and Science. It is a matter of adhering to the law, proper land management and correcting forty years of mis-

takes. Issues raised by Sierra Club, Hawaiians and residents since the 60s are still festering. The State Legislative Auditor found the cultural and natural resources of Mauna Kea have suffered at the expense of unregulated astronomy development.

The University of California and the California Institute of Technology (UC-CalTech) are institutions with a sullied past. They lost legal battles arising from the proposal to build six (6) Keck Outrigger Telescopes, beginning in 1995. The Caltech Submillimeter Observatory has an unlined cesspool on the summit, despite repeated kupunas' requests that it be converted to a septic tank for cultural sensitivity. It was built with no federal EIS. UC-Caltech attempted to count the two Kecks, largest in the world when built, as one by connecting them with a building.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources has a non-transferable fiduciary duty to protect Native Hawaiian rights and resources. DLNR has no money to conduct the court-ordered comprehensive management plan (CMP). They must fix this funding problem first. One way would be to end the \$1.00 per year lease for Great Britain, Japan, Canada, France, NASA, Smithsonian Institution and UC-Caltech. The Supreme Court of Hawai`i has instructed all state agencies to fulfill their duty, prohibiting delegation of their duties to a sub-entity like the University of Hawai`i or a third party like Ku`iwalu, which is now attempting to write the UH version of the CMP.

Providing scholarships will not offset the actual adverse impacts on the natural and cultural resources the TMT would create. Off-site mitigation, such as scholarships, will not suffice. Besides, they have been offered before and not delivered.

In 2003, a federal lawsuit involving UC-Caltech and NASA compelled NASA to complete the first EIS ever conducted on Mauna Kea since 1968. They found that "the cumulative impact of 30 years of astronomy development has resulted in significant, adverse and substantial impact to the cultural and natural resources of Mauna Kea." Correct the problems. Do not build the TMT on them.

OLAPA, by Debbie Hecht

Open Lands and Public Access Alliance (OLAPA) is forming; you can attend these meetings. This organization brings together all of the conservation organizations on Hawai`i Island to cooperate on projects and propose legislation. We have several committees: the Watchdog Committee, keeping members informed on land use issues; the Comprehensive Inventory Committee, to establish an inventory of trails, maps and open space; and the Education/Legislative Committee, who are looking at State and County laws that need to be amended for trails and open space. Want more information? Call Debbie Hecht (989-3222) or e-mail her at hecht.deb@gmail.com.

Continued on page 14

O'ahu Group Outings

Saturday, January 3

Ala Wai Boat Harbor Cleanup

Meet at 8:00 am at the Harbor Master's Office, between the 3rd and 4th row of boats behind the Ilikai Hotel. Park in street stalls or public lot ewa of Hilton lagoon. Wear sturdy shoes with gripping soles and bring a hat, thick rubber gloves, sunscreen, and water. All participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by their legal guardian to participate. Please contact the leader for the waiver. NO SLIP-PERS, closed toe shoes only. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sunday, January 4

Kuaokala

8mi/Moderate/Ridge/Makaha

This is a great hike along the Waianae Range that provides wonderful views of Makua Valley and west Oahu. Not for those uneasy about heights. Arlene Buchholz 988-9806, asst. Colleen Soares

Saturday, January 10

O'ahu Group Outings Information

Unless otherwise stated in the Outing description, participants meet at 8:00 a.m. at the back porch of the Church of the Crossroads, 2510 Bingham Street. Do not leave your car in the church parking lot. Participants in windward outings which are designated with an asterisk may also meet at 8:15 am at the First Hawaiian Bank parking area in the Windward City Shopping Center. (Intersection of Likelike and Kamehameha High way in Kane'ohe). Requested donation for participants age 14 and under and Sierra Club members with a membership card is \$1; donation for all others is \$5. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

All Sierra Club Outings

Sierra Club Outings are conducted according to Club policy and under the direction of certified outings leaders. Our Outings are group activities and all participants are expected to follow leaders' instructions and to remain with the group for the entire outing. We welcome all Sierra Club members, non-members and visitors on most of our outings; however certain outings may be restricted to members. Firearms, pets (unless specifically allowed), and audio devices with or without headsets are prohibited. Smoking is only permitted at breaks and then only if the smell of smoke cannot be detected by other hikers. Outing leaders may prohibit smoking if, in their judgment, a fire hazard exists. Bring with: a liter of water (2 liters for strenuous hikes), lunch, sunscreen, insect repellent, rain gear/jacket and day-pack. Boots, shoes with traction grooves (heeled foot wear are best--no loafers), or tabs are required. No bare feet or sandals of any type will be allowed on O'ahu outings. Sign in on the roster and pay the donation. You will also need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms or call 415-977-5630. In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. **For more details about these outings, visit our website at www.hi.sierraclub.org/Oahu/oahu-hikes.html**

O'ahu Invasive Species Committee Service Project

Please join OISC for a volunteer trip to remove invasive plants in Kalaeloa. Reservations required. RSVP to 286-4616 or oisc@hawaii.edu. Asst. Christine Pawliuk

Sunday, January 11

Hauula-Papali

7 mi/Moderate/Contour/Hauula

This unusual hike takes us on a double loop through the forest. Ed Mersino 223-5765, asst. Lydi Morgan

Saturday, January 17

Sierra Seminar: Campbell Wildlife Refuge

2 mi/Easy/Kahuku

Reservations and refundable deposit required. Join us for this interpretive trip to see native Hawaiian and migratory birds. Annette Kaohelauii 235-5431, Stan Oka

Sunday, January 18

Beginner hike: Kawainui Levee

Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Beginner hikes are for those who have never hiked, have not hiked in a long time or would like to learn the basics of hiking. Randy Ching 942-0145, Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

Sunday, January 25

Ihiihilauakea Crater

3mi/Moderate/Ridge/Koko Head

We may spot some humpback whales from above Hanauma Bay as we make our way into a crater to view rare native plants. Sherine Boomla 527-8034, Stan Oka 429-9814

Sunday, February 1

Kuaokala

8mi/Moderate/ Ridge/Makaha

This is a great hike along the Waianae Range that provides wonderful views of Makua Valley and west Oahu. Not for those uneasy about heights. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528, Jean Fujikawa 203-8508; asst.: Lydi Morgan

Saturday, February 7

Ka`ala Kipuka

1mi/Moderate/Makaha

The Ka`ala Kipuka is Ka`ala Farm's attempt to recreate a native dry forest that is easily accessible to people on O`ahu. Help remove alien plants and plant native trees with us. Meet at the Cultural Learning Center at 8:30 AM. For directions or information call 696-4954 or email kaala-farm@gmail.com. Arlene Buchholz 988-9806; asst.: Lydi Morgan

Saturday, February 14

MCBH Kaneohe Bay Service Project

1 mi/Moderate/Coast/Kaneohe

Reservations required by February 11. Because MCBH is a secured military facility, we must provide your name to the

base in advance, and we will send you a waiver, which you must bring with you. Coordinator: Annette Kaohelaulii 235-5431; Leader: Sherine Boomla 527-8034

Saturday, February 14 (continued)

O'ahu Invasive Species Committee Service Project

Reservations required. RSVP to 286-4616 or oisc@hawaii.edu. Remove invasive plants, like coffee and ginger, on the Manoa Cliffs trail on Tantalus in Makiki. Asst. Christine Pawliuk

Sunday, February 15

Beginner hike: Koko Crater Botanical Garden

Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Randy Ching 942-0145, Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

Sunday, February 22

Sandy Beach Cleanup

1 mi/Easy/Shoreline/East Oahu

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Sandy Beach bathroom at eastern side of beach park. All participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by their legal guardian to participate. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sierra Seminar: Palehua-Palikea

4mi/Easy/Ridge/ Makakilo

Reservations required. Not for those uneasy about heights. Native plants and exquisite tree snails are the attraction in this Nature Conservancy preserve. Ed Mersino 223-5765, Stan Oka 429-9814

Sunday, March 1

Family hike: Kaluanui Ridge

See spectacular views of East Oahu as we climb to the crest of the Koolaus above the Mariners Ridge development. Meet at 1:00 p.m. at trailhead. Stan Oka 429-9814

Saturday, March 7

Whale Watching Excursion

1 mi/Easy/Ridge/ Makapu'u

We will leisurely meander our way up to the pillboxes stopping and talking story along the way as we look for whales. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sunday, March 8

Bicycle Waimanalo & Kailua

Reservations required. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Kailua Recreation Center. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528

Saturday, March 14

O'ahu Invasive Species Committee Service Project

We will be working in 'Ihihilauakea Crater to control weeds and help maintain a fire break around a highly endangered endemic fern. Reservations required. RSVP to 286-4616 or oisc@hawaii.edu. Asst. Christine Pawliuk

Sunday, March 15

Kaena Point Sierra Seminar

6mi/Moderate/Coast/Mokuleia

Reservations required. We will learn about native coastal plants and animals on this interpretive hike. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Beginner hike: Kuliouou Valley

Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Randy Ching 942-0145, Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

Sunday, March 22

Old Pali Road Late Hike

4mi/Moderate/ Contour/Nuuanu Pali

Meet at 1:00 in the parking lot at Pali Lookout. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528, Stan Oka 429-9814

Saturday, March 28

Ala Wai Boat Harbor Cleanup

See January 3 for details. Deborah Blair 955-4168; asst.: Lydi Morgan

Sunday, March 29

Manana

10mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Pearl City

Not for those uneasy about heights. From a stand of eucalyptus and ironwoods, hike up a ridge to a native forest with ohia lehua, kopiko, and alani, as well as sweeping views of central Oahu. Dave Iacobucci 531-3129, Randy Ching 942-0145

Sunday, April 5

Kaunala West

5mi/Moderate/ Contour/Pupukea

Native plants are the highlight on this trail, with beautiful views of central Oahu. Stan Oka 429-9814

Saturday, April 11

MCBH Kaneohe Bay Service Project

See February 14 for details. Reservations required by April 8. Leader: Deborah Blair 955-4168

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O'ahu Group Outings

Continued from page 13

O'ahu Invasive Species Committee Service Project
Reservations required. RSVP to 286-4616 or oisc@hawaii.edu. Please join OISC for our next volunteer service trip to remove an invasive plant, manuka, on Manana trail in Pearl City. Asst. Christine Pawliuk

Sunday, April 12

Makapuu Easter Breakfast Hike

2 mi/Easy/Contour/Makapuu

Our traditional Easter outing. Meet at the trailhead at 7:00 a.m. and bring a breakfast dish to share. Sherine Boomla 527-8034

Sunday, April 19

Kawailoa

5 mi/Moderate/Contour/
North Shore

Let's celebrate John Muir's birthday (April 21) on this great contour trail, which passes through one of the wildest areas on Oahu. Ed Mersino 223-5765

Beginner hike: Moanalua Valley

Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Randy Ching 942-0145, Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

Sunday, April 26

Maunawili Trail from Pali

Lookout

10 mi/Moderate/Contour/Maunawili

Travel the Maunawili Trail from the lookout to Waimanalo. Car shuttle required. Stan Oka 429-9814, Jean Fuji-kawa 203-8508

Don't forget to Vote!

O`ahu Group's Elections

Moku Loa Group Report

Continued from page 11

SIERRA CLUB CALENDARS by Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers

Sierra Club calendars have arrived. Please call Roberta (966-7002) to make arrangements for calendar pick-up. If you have already ordered them from me, please call again so I can get the calendars to you. I will also bring them to the Annual Meeting December 8 at Wailoa River State Park.

"PRESERVING PARADISE," A Volunteer Guide Update (Kirsten Whatley)

Paradise is an ideal. It's somewhere other than where you spend your busy days. It's soaked in beauty and the sight of it stops your mind. It lifts your heart.

But there's more beneath the surface of a pretty picture. There are struggles to keep Hawai'i's coastlines from being developed, desperate battles to protect endangered plants and wildlife against invasive species. And there are the tireless folks who wake up obsessing about some cherished piece of wilderness or some underwater sanctuary or some species in danger of falling off the map.

You'll meet them in "Preserving Paradise" – hopefully soon you'll be standing next to them. A response to both our economic and environ-

mental crises, the book features over 65 organizations in Hawai'i (Moku Loa Group is included) that offer short-term volunteer opportunities with the island's land, ocean and wildlife. Going beyond green, it's a way to experience the islands that doesn't just make less of an impact, but actually gives something back.

For more about the book, and to see a sneak preview, go to www.preservingparadisevolunteering.com – the book can be purchased through the site, and at major bookstores, such as Borders, Barnes & Noble and Amazon, or directly from the publisher at www.islandheritage.com.



High School Hikers set up a tent in preparation for the annual Fall Hikers Workshop on October 4, 2008, at Farrington High School's ROTC building.

Post Holiday Presents

By Annette Kaohelaui, Fundraising Chair

For all of you good boy and girl environmentalists who did not get the “right” present for Christmas, you might consider some recent publications that discuss various aspects of Hawai`i’s unique environment. Here are several that I have come across in the last couple of months, that I would recommend.

Sierra Club member John B Hall has made it so much easier for hikers to identify plants along the trail with his new publication “A Hiker’s Guide to Trailside Plants in Hawai`i”. Hall has vast experience hiking Hawai`i’s trails for more than 40 years, mostly with the Hawaiian Trail and Mountain Club, but lately with his own local hiking group, the Solemates. He has also hiked and taught in countries such as New Zealand, Turkey, Nepal and Belize. Following his retirement from the University of Hawai`i he has kept busy hiking and creating this extremely useful and handy guide for the Hawai`i nature lover. A Hiker’s Guide to Trailside Plants in Hawai`i was published by Mutual Publishing in Honolulu. www.mutualpublishing.com

Those of you who love to volunteer in the outdoors in order to protect our natural and cultural environment in Hawai`i, will be delighted with Maui resident Kirsten Whatley’s “Preserving Paradise: Opportunities for Volunteering for Hawai`i’s Environment”. As an advocate for voluntourism, I was very excited about the concept of a collection of the limitless volunteer opportunities for local residents and visitors who are concerned about preserving the natural resources that abound, yet are threatened in Hawai`i. This comprehensive publication by Island Heritage will inspire you to volunteer for the environment whether at home or on a visit to another island. www.islandheritage.com.

Like Kevin Whitton, author of “Green Hawai`i: A Guide to a Sustainable and Energy Efficient Home” you too are no doubt looking for ways to reduce your electric bill or to leave a smaller footprint on the planet. Whitton has put it all together for you in this handy how to guide. Our care and respect for the land also extends to our home and workplace, so incorporating some of these suggestions can lead to a

more energy efficient abode. Published by Mutual Publishing,, you can find out more at www.mutualpublishing.com.

My personal favorite for a great gift is “Hawai`i Wildlife Viewing Guide.” For \$14.95 you can spend hours enjoying the variety of wildlife viewing locations throughout the state. Responsible viewing behavior is emphasized along with great directions and guidelines to see birds, whales, dolphins and fish wherever you are. Watchable Wildlife, Inc. partners with state and federal agencies to promote sustainable wildlife viewing programs to help communities and wildlife prosper. The “Hawai`i Wildlife Viewing Guide” is just the first phase of a statewide program to enhance the wildlife viewing public’s opportunities to enjoy wildlife. Interpretive signs will be installed in various viewing locations in the coming year so this guide will become an essential part of your natural history library.

All of these great gift ideas can be found at a book-

KOLEA WATCHERS

A Special Request from Dr. Wally Johnson. This past summer we banded 30 Kolea nesting near Nome, Alaska, and one of the birds was sighted near Hiroshima, Japan in September! From other studies, we know that many plovers migrate between Hawaii and Alaska. Now it looks like there may also be a Kolea connection between Alaska and the East Asian Flyway! It's almost certain that at least some of the plovers caught last summer are wintering in Hawaii, but where? Please be sure to look closely at plover-legs during the '08-'09 winter season. We're keeping track of banded plovers in the Punchbowl and at the Veterans Cemetery in Kaneohe, but if you spot a banded Kolea anywhere else we would be ecstatic to hear from you.

Each plover wears a metal band plus a unique combination of color-bands. It is important to record the exact sequence on each leg, and whether there is a color-band above or below the metal band.

Send observations with as much information as possible to: Wally Johnson, Dept. of Ecology, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717 (e-mail: ow-johnson2105@aol.com; tel: 406-585-3502). MAHALO

Moku Loa Group Outings

Key: D=distance, the estimated round trip for the day; E=elevation in feet: + is gain, - is loss, +/- is up and down. Classification of hikes: (E) Education/Interpretation; (C) Conservation; (F) Family/Fun; (S) Service

Monday, January 5 - Meeting with new Executive Director Robert Harris - Kea'au Community Center, 7:00 pm.

Saturday, January 10 - Pu'uhonua O Honaunau (Refuge) to Ho'okena Dayhike (E)(C) D = 4 miles; E = sea level

This is a coastal Ala Kahakai hike over mostly lava and passing cultural sites (Ki'ilae Village) and the old trading village of Ho'okena. We will have a car shuttle so we can start at the Refuge (entrance fee or pass required) and end at the old trading village of Ho'okena for lunch and optional swim in the bay. Sturdy shoes, hat, sunscreen and 1-2 quarts of water required. Contact Leader Diane Ware (967-8642); Co-leader, Rich Vogler.

Saturday - Monday, January 17-19 - Ka'alu'alu Bay Hike, Mountain Bike & Camping Trip (S)(F)(E)(C) D = 16 miles; E = coastline. Hikers, bikers and campers welcome on this scenic section of the newly designated National Historic Trail. 4x4 vehicles will support hikers and bikers and carry campers to beautiful Ka'alu'alu Bay where we will camp under the trees. Layover day with opportunity to explore further or relax in camp. Service consists of piling up trash 1-2 hours/day for later pickup by tractors. Expect hot and windy conditions along this trail with cultural and historic sites, native flora and fauna. Contact Cheryl Hoover (985-9601) or Diane Ware (967-8642).

Saturday, January 24 - Lokoaka Trail Service Trip (S) D = 0.5 miles; E = sea level. Clear trails to pristine lagoons, plant native plants and clear noxious plants. Tools, gloves, water and insect repellent provided. Wear sturdy boots or shoes and protective clothing; bring swimsuits for a cool swim after the

Outings are conducted in accordance with Sierra Club outing policies. Participants need to recognize the authority of the leader and plan to remain with the group for the entire outing. Sierra Club carries no participant accident insurance. In order to participate in one of Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please call (415) 977-5630, or see www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms. In the interest of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make car-pooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for car-pooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Car-pooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. Each participant should carry a minimum of one quart of water, lunch, sunscreen, insect repellent and rain gear. Wear sturdy shoes with traction. Additional items will be listed with the outing description. Donation for non-members is \$3.00. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

project. Contact Jan or Sarah Moon (935-3475).

Saturday, February 7 - Green Sands Beach (F) D = 4 miles; E = sea level. This strand of olivine crystals near South Point is reached along a hot, dusty road. This trail is part of the proposed National Historic Trail, the Ala Kahakai. Be prepared for sun and wind. Bring 2 quarts of water, lunch, sunscreen and hat. Swimming may be possible if the ocean is not too rough, but it can have a very dangerous current. No life guard on duty. Contact Leader, Rose Acevedo (756-5990)

Friday-Monday - February 20-23 - Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park Coastal Backpack (E)(C) D = 22 miles; E = 2700'. An opportunity to spend a long weekend backpacking and exploring this beautiful coast section of the park. Friday afternoon we'll hike 4 miles to our first overnight at Ka'aha. Saturday we'll cover 8 miles to Keahou for the night. We'll spend the third night at Apua Point 3 miles away before going the last 7 miles out to Chain of Craters Road. This trail is part of the National Historic Trail, the Ala Kahakai. Swimming along the way. Previous backpacking experience and equipment. Leader approval required. Contact Cheryl Hoover (985-9601) or Diane Ware (967-8642).

Saturday, February 28 - Kaloli to Haena (Shipman Beach) (E) (C) D = 6 miles, E = sea level. Hike on a historic trail in Puna, an inland carriage road from Paradise Park to Haena. Observe nene and interesting backshore ecosystems. Rocks could be slippery due to high waves. Contact Leader Rose Acevedo (756-5990)

Saturday-Monday, March 21-23 - Pololu Backpack (E)(C) D = 2 miles; E = 1200' +/-600'. Easy downhill hike into a beautiful valley and campground (base camp). The second day we will explore a 9-mile loop trail with a waterfall for showering. This hike will take a full day. Bring camping gear, mosquito repellent, change of clothes, extra socks, meals, etc. Tabis may be needed for river crossing. Possible car pool expenses. Contact Diane Ware (967-8642) or Cheryl Hoover (985-9601)

Sunday, March 22 - Pu'u O'o Trail Day Hike (Saddle Road) (E)(C)(F) D = 4 miles, E = 5700' +/- 100' This is an easy-paced interpretive nature walk on a well-marked fairly level old trail that was used long ago to drive cattle across the island. It begins off Saddle Road at the 5700' elevation and crosses through pristine native forest kipukas surrounded by old lava flows. We'll go as far as the group decides, then have lunch and retrace our route. The weather may be changeable, so bring warm clothes, 1 quart of water, sunscreen, hat, rain gear, lunch; and wear sturdy shoes. Optional gear may include camera, binoculars and sketching materials. Contact Leaders Sunny and Michael LaPlante (964-5017)

Kaua'i Group Outings

Wed. Jan 7—Nonou (Sleeping Giant) Conservation Service Project/East Side/strenuous/4 miles. Tend to endangered native plants in their habitat and enjoy a moon light walk. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 346-0476

Fri. Jan 9—Sunset to Moonlight Whale Watching Walk. Easy/ 3 miles. Enjoy miles of wild coastline from Nukoli'i to Lydgate Beach Park. We'll shuttle cars for an easy one-way walk and have a moon-lit picnic on the beach near Lydgate. Judy Dalton 246-9067

Sun. Jan. 11—Canyon Trail/ Kokee/ moderate/3.5 miles. Enjoy spectacular Waimea canyon views along one rim & crossing over top of Waipo'o falls. Jane Schmitt 826-6105

Sun. Jan 18—Kuila Trail/East side/Moderate/4.2 miles. This trail offers great rewards without a lot of effort. Glorious views & ever-present bird-songs reward you along this trail. Kathy Valier 826-7302

Wed. Jan 21—Waimea Canyon Road Clean up/Easy/ 2 miles. Afternoon clean up of Sierra Club's adopted highway usually requires a little over an hour. Please help keep the gateway to Waimea Canyon litter-free. Bob Nishek 346-0476

Sat. Jan 24—Ditch Trail/ Kauaikinana Ditch trail/Kumuella Loop Koke'e/West side/Moderate/4 mile loop. Extraordinary view of Po`omau Canyon and spectacular water falls. Neil Brosnahan 346-8460

Sun. Jan 25—Maha'ulepu Coastal hike. South side/ moderate/ 3 miles Enjoy the majestic, rugged ancient sand-dune area of Maha`ulepu. Whales abound offshore this time of year. Allan Rachap 742-1001

Sat. Jan 31—Help with Humpback whale count by checking local newspaper announcements for last Saturdays of Jan, Feb & March.

Sun. Feb 1—Ho'opi'i Falls/East Side/3 miles/moderate. Learn different uses of trees along forest trail, walk near river, climb higher through a forest, then down to view two lovely waterfalls. Karen Tilley 821-8008

Thurs. Feb 5—National Tropical Botanical Gardens. South Side/moderate/2 miles. Enjoy the gardens in the late af-

ternoon and watch an almost full moon rise. Opportunity to see these beautiful gardens and learn about propagation of native plants. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 346-0476

Sun. Feb 8—Maha'ulepu Sunset to Moonlight whale-watching walk. South Shore/Moderate/ 4 miles. Coastal hike starts at Shipwreck Beach late afternoon & ends with a full moon. We'll shuttle cars for a one-way hike. Incredible views every step of the way! Wendy McIlroy 634-0438.

Sat. Feb. 14—Canyon to Black Pipe Loop Hike/Kokee State Park /Strenuous/6-mile loop. A wonder-filled forest and ridge view hike crossing Kokee Stream to spectacular views of Waimea Canyon and Waipo'o Falls. Lunch at Kumuwela Lookout. Neil Brosnahan 346-8460

Sun. Feb 15—Nonou (Sleeping Giant)/East Side/6 miles/ moderately strenuous. Hiking up one trail and down another let's you see it all. Incredible, sweeping views, and magnificent vegetation. Allan Rachap 742-1001

Sat. Feb 21—Kalalau Trail to Space Rock/ North Shore/ Strenuous/ 6.5 miles. Depart from Ke'e Beach & hike along NaPali cliffs to high point on the Kalalau trail, (Space Rock) with constant spectacular coastal views. Boreas 639-3009. If no reply, check our web site.

Sun. Feb 22—Mohihi Waialae Trail: Kokee/Difficult/ 8 miles. Cross Mohihi Stream and follow Kohua Ridge into the Alakai Wilderness Preserve continuing to the Koaie Stream. Bob Greene 332-5158

Sat. Feb 28—Kukui Trail/Waimea Canyon/Strenuous/5 miles. Beautiful views of Waimea Canyon as we descend to Waimea River. Kathy Valier 826-7302

Sun. Mar 1—Baby (Fuji) Beach Clean Up East side/.25 miles/Easy Help restore this family beach by removing litter. Bags, tools,& refreshments provided. Karen Tilley 821-8008

Thurs. Mar 5—National Tropical Botanical Gardens via Spouting Horn. South Side/moderate/3 miles. Start from NTBG Spouting Horn in Poipu walk along the old train road offering beautiful views of Lawai Bay. Enjoy the gardens in the late afternoon and watch an almost full moon rise. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 346-0476

Sat. Mar 7—Alakai Swamp Trail/ Koke'e/ West side/ Strenuous/ 7 miles. Hike through, mountain rain forest

Join us on one of these outings to explore, enjoy and care for our island. Note the level of hiking proficiency. Hikes are round-trip mileage unless noted otherwise. Participants must sign a liability waiver. Requested hike donation for Sierra Club members and participants under 18: \$1. For others: \$5. Current hike status at <http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/kauai/>

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Maui Group Outings

Saturday, January 10: Pali Trail Hike. Hike to the top of the Pali. Spectacular views of whales, ocean, mountains and the Kaheawa wind farm. This is the same trail ancient Hawaiians walked to get from Lahaina to Wailuku. It rises from sea level to 1,500 feet and is 6 miles round trip. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen and camera. Meet 8:30 am at Pali trailhead (Lahaina side of tunnel just as the highway comes down to sea level - approx. mile marker 10.8). Limit 18. Hike leader: Bob Babson. Please call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Saturday, January 17, 8:30 am to noon: Community Work Day: Aloha Aina Cleanup! To volunteer, please call CWD at 877-2524 for the cleanup nearest you. This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Tuesday, January 20: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Flatbread Company upstairs in the Board Room, 89 Hana Highway, Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please email Karen Chun at Karen@RedwoodGames.com to confirm meeting time and place and to discuss any agenda item you would like to discuss.

Thursday, January 22: Visit Kahanu National Botanical Garden in Hana and see the largest heiau in Hawaii, beautiful plants and trees, and sweeping ocean views. \$10/person entrance fee. Then, visit beautiful Hamoa Beach where we will swim and eat lunch. Meet 8:30 am at the Haiku Community Center and carpool to Hana. Bring bathing suits and lunch. Limit 18. Hike leader: Bob Babson. Call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Saturday, February 7: Sierra Club Annual Membership Meeting. 11am-3pm, Kaunoa Senior Center, Spreckelsville. Members and general public welcome. Awards, updates and panel discussion at noon. Potluck picnic to follow (main dish and beverages provided). Please check for updates at: www.maui_sierraclub/maui. Sierra Club t-shirts

(Great new colors) and other items will be for sale. Please come and talk story! Free!

Sunday, February 15: Kanaio Stupa Tibetan Monastery - Hike 1.5 miles up steep grade to this beautiful monument/shrine built in 1982. Meet 9:00 am across from Grandma's Coffee House to carpool. Bring lunch, camera and rain gear just in case. Limit 18. Hike leader: Bob Babson. Call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Tuesday, February 17: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Flatbread Company upstairs in the Board Room, 89 Hana Highway, Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please email Karen Chun at Karen@RedwoodGames.com to confirm meeting time and place and to discuss any agenda item you would like to discuss.

Saturday, February 21: Maui's Whale Day Celebration sponsored by the Pacific Whale Foundation. 10 am to 5 pm at Kalama Park on South Kihei Road (by the big whale statue). The Sierra Club will have an information booth in "Eco-Alley." Come enjoy and talk story. Free admission.

Saturday, February 28: Explore Makamakaole Stream. This is a beautiful hike up a valley loaded with ancient taro "loi's." Bring bathing suit, lunch and water. Water tabi's recommended for stream crossings. Three miles round trip. We will pick out a nice pool to swim in and have lunch. Meet 8:30 am at Waihee Grammar School where we will carpool. Leader: Bob Babson. Limit 18. Call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Saturday, March 7: Maui Coastal Land Trust's famous "Buy Back the Beach" Lu'au and Auction at the Old Lahaina Lu'au. The Maui Coastal Land Trust is a non-political, non-profit organization that works with private landowners,

Continued on page 21

Please be prepared for outings. Bring lunch, water, rain gear, sunscreen, sturdy footwear and trim your toenails. A donation of \$5 (\$2 for Sierra Club members) is requested of hikers over age 14. Please register early. Pre-registration is required for some hikes. Call Sierra Club hike line at 573-4147 or the hike leader number shown below. The East Maui Irrigation Company (EMI) allows us to hike across their land so long as each hiker has a waiver. An EMI waiver is ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED for EMI hikes (listed above). One waiver covers all EMI hikes for this quarter. Call in your waiver request to Jackie at 579-9516 well in advance and make an appointment with her for when you can sign it. Then go to EMI's Pa'ia office at 497 Baldwin Avenue to sign the waiver. Please be considerate of Jackie's time and pick up waiver 5 days in advance whenever possible. Also, please check our web site, www.hi.sierraclub.org/maui, and click on Hikes and Activities for additional hikes and outings and/or changes which we have added after this newsletter was published.

Just a quick note to also say we do need new hike leaders. Being a hike leader is fun. You can pick the hikes you lead. Please call Lucienne de Naie at 572-8331 or Bob Babson at 874-1166 for more information if you are interested.

Maui Group Report

GROUP ACTIVITIES

On September 7th we had our traditional election year Red, White and Blue Picnic. All candidates were invited to come and speak and meet the voters. Fun was had by all. Candidates had outrigger canoe races, food was served and there was even a silent auction.

UPDATES ON MAUI CONSERVATION ISSUES

By Lucienne de Naie

North Shore Heritage Park: The Draft Maui Island Plan (MIP) under discussion has language supporting a North Shore park from Baby Beach to the lime kiln site, but very little land on the mauka side of Hana Highway. Citizens need to keep pushing for the coastal and mauka sections of the park, the expansion of Ho'okipa Park and the addition of a greenway corridor (mauka of Hana Hwy) connecting Baldwin and Ho'okipa. For more information, go to www.mauicounty.gov and click on planning department, then click on Long Range Planning and then click on General Plan 2030. Keep up your support for the Park through the Maui Island Plan (MIP) review process which will be completed in Jan -Feb, 2009. To receive alerts sign up at www.mausierraclub.org. Also, please see www.northshorepark.org.

Pali to Puamana Parkway: The concept of an 8 mile parkway makai of any realigned Honoapiilani Hwy route is supported in the 2030 MIP. Several private developments are being proposed along the route that would place a number of houses and a partial park between the proposed bypass and the existing coastal road. A new highway "realignment" route is under discussion. Contact public interest rep on the advisory committee, Lucienne de Naie at laluz@maui.net.

East Maui Streams: The State Water Commission settled a 7 year old citizen petition to amend (increase) stream flows in 27 East Maui streams in September. Sierra Club submitted comments supporting restored stream flows. Stream diversions are being altered in 8 East Maui streams to release several million gallons of water back into streams that communities depend upon.

Iao & Waihe'e Stream Restoration: Plans for a proposed water treatment plant (a partnership between A&B and Maui County) using Iao & Waihe'e stream waters, have been put on hold until the water commission settles legal challenges filed by Hui o Na Wai Eha and Maui Tomorrow on the amount of water that should be returned to the streams. Decision expected in first half of 2009.

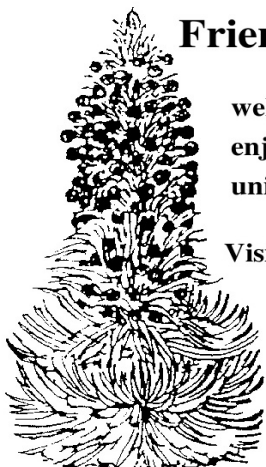
Sustainable Energy: Maui Group Chair Lance Holter organized a very informative presentation on a proposed solar thermal facility that could be built on Maui. Check our Sierra Club's Sea Change Hawai'i campaign to boost energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions at www.seachangehawaii.org. Sierra Club activists continue to monitor all plans to help shape a viable local renewable energy future for Maui. For more information: www.HawaiiBioFuel.org.

Plastic Bag Ban: A ban on plastic bag use in Maui County will go into effect in 2011. Thanks to Council Member Molina and his staff and all who worked hard to pass the bill.

Superferry Update: The Superferry Draft EIS is still not complete and the advisory group appointed by the Governor to monitor the vessel's activities will disband soon. Concerns about Maui sea life being shipped to O'ahu continue. December 18th the State Supreme Court will hear arguments from Maui Tomorrow and Save Kahului Harbor Coalition's appeal challenging the constitutionality of the legislature passing a special law to exempt Superferry from environmental review. For updates go to www.SaveKahuluiharbor.com.

Haleakala Solar Telescope (ATST): Members of Kilakila o Haleakala, a citizen's group urging an alternative site for the 14 story energy hog telescope have been joined by native Hawaiian environmental alliance Kahea and several other groups in

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Kaua'i Group Report

by Judy Dalton

Charter Amendment Victory! The Charter Amendment to require that the Kauai County Council implement the General Plans 20-year vision for development passed in the November 4 election with 14,065 Yes votes, an impressive 64% of the votes cast. Many dedicated people worked hard to achieve this success. They collected 3,000 signatures on the petition to put the measure on the ballot, spoke to hundreds of people at our Farm Fair booth, made the charter amendment the topic of radio program discussions, recorded radio spots, wrote newspaper articles and letters and stood holding signs along road wayd. The passage of this charter amendment is a critical step in our efforts to control over development, create a sustainable island, and preserve what is so special about Kaua'i.

Sierra Club members were involved in leading the effort from its inception in the spring of 2006 at our Executive Committee meetings, through the formation of the Coalition for Responsible Government coalition that drafted the citizens petition this March and every aspect of the eight-month campaign that followed. Steering committee members Carl Imperato, David Dinner, Judy Dalton, Rayne Regush, Rich Hoepfner, Anna Chavez, Wendy Raebeck, Scott Mijares, Andrea Brower, Keone Kealoha, Sandy Herndon, Marge Freeman, and Brad Parsons provided the energy to initiate the campaign and keep it moving forward. And there are many, many more of you whose contributions were vital to achieving this historic victory. Mahalo to each of you.

Annual Sierra Club Awards. Three outstanding environmentalists received awards at the Kauai Group 6th Annual Picnic presented by Senator Gary Hooser, Rep. Mina Morita and JoAnn Yukimura.

Rich Hoepfner - Environmentalist of the Year. In response to the pending arrival of the Superferry, Rich and his wife Judie Lundborg, created an organization called "People for the Preservation of Kaua'i" (PPK) in June 2006. PPK collected over 6,000 signatures to a petition requesting an EIS be completed prior to arrival of the Superferry at Nawiliwili Harbor. They flew to Oahu to give the peti-



Executive Committee members Caren Diamond, Marge Freeman, Judy Dalton, Carl Imperato, Rayne Regush and David Dinner at Kaua'i Group annual picnic. Missing from picture are Gabriela Taylor and Jimmy Trujillo. (Photo by Josh Atkinson)

tions to the governor, but she refused to meet with them. Rich eventually succeeded in presenting them to her at the conclusion of the governor's address to a packed Kaua'i War Memorial auditorium in September 2007. Rich's activism culminated in filing a lawsuit through 1000 Friends of Kaua'i to prevent the Superferry from sailing to Kaua'i until completion of an independent EIS.

Andrea Brower - Young Activist Award. Andrea is recognized on Kaua'i for her grassroots organizing, sustainability advocacy, and community-building projects. Currently she is a full-time project manager at Malama Kaua'i, an organization that advocates, educates, and drives action towards a sustainable Kaua'i. A recent University of California at Santa Cruz graduate, Andrea has put her degree in Environmental Studies to good use on Kauai. She created and maintains the always up-to-date and comprehensive "Save Kaua'i.org" website which informs the community about issues and events affecting Kaua'i.

Keone Kealoha - Pono Award. Keone is the executive director and co-founder of Malama Kaua'i. He worked to ensure that the Superferry follow the state's environmental laws, testifying several times at the capitol during the special session of 2007 and appeared on PBS's Island Insights alongside Senator Hooser discussing the Superferry. Keone has presented testimony to the Planning Commission and Council on issues such as GMO taro, open space, water systems and sustainable agriculture. Keone's informative Malama Kaua'i website, insightful reports and educational KKCR program "Malama Kaua'i, which Andrea Brower has joined as a co-host, reaches a wide audience. Andrea and Keone created the Eco-Roundtable, a quarterly forum that brings together Kauai's environmental organizations to focus on taking action.

They produced a first-rate mayoral and council Candidates Forum posting questionnaire replies on the Save Kaua'i website and live streaming of the event.

Executive Committee election: Interested in serving on the Kaua'i Group Executive Committee? If so, please contact Judy Dalton at 246-9067 by January 20.

Maui Group Report

Continued from page 19

Wailea 670: The 1400 unit Wailea 670 development had its approval process challenged by 5 citizens. On November 17, Judge Cardoza ruled that their concerns were not a breach of the sunshine law. It is unknown if an appeal will be made. A new EIS is being prepared for the project, which is now acknowledged to have an endangered species of native moth and a number of rare plants. A possible habitat preserve area of 100 acres is being discussed. Maui Group supports preservation for the whole southern 200 acres of Wailea 670.

Makena Resort Rezoning: This large (1,000 condo units) ultra-luxury project has used the economic downturn to press its case for immediate rezoning with council members being bullied into accepting 33%, not 50% affordable housing dedication. Club members are concerned about an outdated EIS, massive grading that will impact reefs and water quality and lack of water and other infrastructure. It's also possible that this "members only" style gated community with private golf course and beach club will further commercialize the entire Makena area, even the state park. Six Council members who received campaign donations from Dowling Co. appear to support this rezone request. Council members Mateo, Anderson and Johnson have concerns and voted NO at second reading. Final vote is expected in December, but the public comment process will continue with Special Management Area Review in 2009. For updates on hearings and actions on either project, go to www.savemakena.org.

Food Security: Sustainable life styles, home and community gardens, energy updates, a local economy and lots more are being discussed on a lively new action-oriented blog hosted by Sierra Club board member Rob Parsons. Check it out: www.mauifoodsecurity.com.

Maui Island 2030 Plan: Public meetings and discussions will resume in January and February as final decisions on the MIP and its urban growth boundary maps are made. Club ally, Maui Tomorrow, has created several "Preferred Future" maps to offer a "Plan B" for Maui's future growth. Check out: www.maui-tomorrow.org.

Maui Group Outings

Continued from page 18

neighborhoods, community groups and government agencies to protect significant environmental and cultural resources in perpetuity. The protected resources are site specific. Call 244-5263 for more information and to buy tickets. This is not a Sierra Club Activity.

Sunday, March 8: Hike spectacular Skyline Trail above the timberline with vistas of the Big Island 100 miles away on a clear day. Witness numerous cinder cones from Haleakala's most recent eruptions. Strenuous four mile hike round trip at high elevation (10,000') begins and ends at Skyline trailhead parking lot near Science City at the top of Haleakala. Meet 8:30 am at Pukalani Terrace Shopping Center (Bank of Hawaii). Carpool to top. \$10/car entrance fee to Haleakala National Park. Bring camera, water, lunch, hiking boots and warm layers of clothing. Limit 18. Leader: Bob Babson. Call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Saturday, March 14: Haiku Ho'olaulea and Flower Festival. Free admission! Music, food, contests, auction, farmer's market, historical display & family fun!! Check out the Maui Group PLANT SALE booth in the Farmer's Market! 9 am-3:30 pm, Haiku Community Center on Hana Hwy. Plant sale help needed. We need donated plants as well as volunteers to work at the event. Start your keiki plants now! Please go to www.mauisierraclub.org for updates and who to call to volunteer and donate plants.

Tuesday, March 17: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Flatbread Company upstairs in the Board Room, 89 Hana Highway, Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please email Karen Chun at Karen@RedwoodGames.com to confirm meeting time and place and to discuss any agenda item you would like to discuss.

Saturday, March 21: From La Perouse Bay, hike south on the Kings Highway to Kanaio - one of the most remote and beautiful areas on Maui. Visit anchialine ponds (unusual shallow ponds with tiny red shrimp) and archeological sites along the way. We actually walk off the recent lava flow onto the ancient shoreline where we explore further south. Bring bathing suit, lunch, water, hat and sunscreen. 8 mile roundtrip all day hike. This hike goes about 2 miles further than our regular La Perouse Bay hike. Meet at Kihei Community Center (Lipoa Street & Piilani Highway) at 8:30 am to carpool. Leader: Bob Babson. Limit 18. Call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Kaua'i Group Outings (continued)

Continued from page 17

via boardwalks that Sierra Club helped build, to lookout at Kilohana for a spectacular vista of the North shore. See rare endemic plants & birds. Need 4-wheel vehicles to do shuttle to trail head. Bob Greene. Check website for new tel. number.

Sun. Mar 8—Maha'ulepu Sunset to Moonlight whale-watching walk. South Shore/Moderate/ 4 miles. Coastal hike starts at Shipwreck Beach late afternoon & ends with a full moon. We'll shuttle cars for a one-way hike. Wendy McIlroy 634-0438.

Sat. Mar 14—Powerline Trail/ East side to North shore/Strenuous/ 9 miles. Well shuttle cars from North Shore to Wailua for a one way trip along a ridge offering Kauai's best views of the northeast quadrant of the island. Jane Schmitt 826-6105

Sun. Mar 15—Waipoo Falls/Koke'e/ Moderately strenuous/ 2.5 miles Views, and more views along this spectacular hike. Picnic at a lovely ginger pool. Allan Rachap 742-1001

Sun. Mar 15—Mahaulepu Beach Clean Up. Help Sierra Club, Malama Maha'ulepu and Surfrider clean this gorgeous beach. Opportunity to watch whales this time of year. Judy Dalton 246-9067

Sat. Mar 21—Okolehao/Northshore/Strenuous/4 miles. Celebrate the first day of spring with an afternoon hike that climbs 1200 feet along a ridge behind Hanalei with beautiful views of Hanalei Bay and the North Shore. Kathy Valier 826-7302

Sun. Mar 22—Source of Hanalei River Tunnel/East Side/Strenuous/6.5miles An adventure starting from the Wailua area through a mile-long tunnel to upper reaches of Hanalei River. The trail is sometimes muddy being close to Wai`ale`ale. Neil Brosnahan 346-8460

Sat. Mar 28—Nonou (Sleeping Giant)/East Side/6 miles/moderately strenuous. Hiking up one trail and down another let's you see it all. Incredible, sweeping views, and magnificent vegetation. Boreas 639-3009

Sun. Mar 29—Aliomanu Beach Clean up. East side/Easy/1mile.

Meet at Anahola Beach Park at Aliomanu Rd. Bags, tools, gloves and refreshments provided. Karen Tilley 821-8008

Tues. Mar 31—Waimea Canyon Road Cleanup/West Side/Easy/ 2 miles. Afternoon clean up of Sierra Club's adopted highway usually requires a little over an hour. Please help keep the gateway to Waimea Canyon clean. Bob Nishek 346-0476



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Sierra Club, O`ahu Group Executive Committee Election

MEMBERS MAY ALSO VOTE ONLINE AT WWW.HI.SIERRACLUB.ORG/OAHU/BALLOT

Please use paper ballot on page 24 or vote online before February 6 — not both.

The Executive Committee establishes O`ahu policies, coordinates activities, sets the O`ahu budget, raises funds, recruits members, makes O`ahu political endorsements and works on conservation issues.

Michael M. Kliks

Michael has served on O`ahu Group ExCom for 5 years, 3 years as Vice Chair, and Chairs its Conservation and Land Use Committee. He has been Chapter Delegate for almost 4 years and Co-Chair of the Chapter's Membership and Fundraising Committees. He is active at the legislature promoting the Club's goals, and in soliciting donations from both individual supporters and by organizing fundraising events. As a commercial beekeeper he contributes to our food security both by producing fine honeys and providing pollination services that support sustainable, diversified agriculture. His professional background is in microbiology and entomology with a specialty in the landscape ecology of human diseases as they relate to man-made environmental changes.

Steven Lee Montgomery, Ph.D.

Steve is a field biologist who has discovered 30 new species, doing research on cold-tolerant species on Mauna Kea and describing the predatory behavior of Hawaiian inchworms in National Geographic and GeoJournal, making science understandable to general audiences. He blends his scientific expertise and educational skills to serve as advisor to Discovery & Animal Planet, BBC, NOVA, NGS & NHK film, photo, and print media projects involving natural history. He received his Ph. D. at U. H. in 1984 and his B.A. in Biology from Grinnell College, Iowa. He has been self-employed as a biologist since 1978. A 30-year volunteer with the Conservation Council for Hawai'i, Citizens Against Noise, and the Heptachlor Foundation. He served 10 years as a Governor's appointee to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission and on the Land Use Commission. He has worked for legislators chairing Health, Ecology and Environment Committees. He helped found the Hawai'i Coalition of Conservation Voters in 1982 and volunteers in many political campaigns to plan and fund pro-environment ads for endorsed candidates. Inspired by Muir, Leopold, Gagne and Lamoureux, he wants to help the Club and legislators improve biosecurity of Island flora and wildlife, to head off replacement by aggressive continental species.

Lydi Morgan

Lydi Morgan has served as an O`ahu Group board member and its treasurer since 2007. She currently works as an educator with The Green House and the Kokua Hawai'i Foundation's 'AINA In Schools program, teaching gardening, composting, recycle art and environmental awareness to K-12 students and adults across O`ahu. Lydi grew up on O`ahu and has previously worked for the Hawaii Audubon Society, the O`ahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC), and The Nature Conservancy. During the 2006 legislative session

she worked as a Legislative Aide and Assistant Committee Clerk for Hawai'i State Representative Hermina Morita, who is Chair of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection. Lydi joined the Sierra Club in 1993 and is deeply committed to the protection of Hawaii's environment. Her top concerns are food security, waste issues, and a bike-able O`ahu.

Carey Morishige

Born and raised in the islands, Carey has worked in the environmental field in Hawaii for over seven years and brings with her a wealth of knowledge, particularly in areas of marine conservation. She has a BA in Zoology and MS in Animal Science from the University of Hawaii and has worked for the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program, the Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter, and with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Currently she works on contract for the NOAA Marine Debris Program. As previous Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter staff, heading up the Blue Water Campaign, and being a member of the Club since 2004, she is familiar with and shares its sustainability and conservation-related values and ethics.

Blaine Rogers

Blaine is a lifelong outdoor enthusiast with a strong interest in protecting open space, watersheds, and the ocean. A 2006 graduate of the William S. Richardson School of Law with a certificate in environmental law, Blaine began his law career as the first Legal Fellow in a joint venture with the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Office of Attorney General. In that position, Blaine obtained the first fine for coral damage in the history of the State of Hawaii. More recently, one of the cases Blaine prepared garnered more than \$400,000 in fines against a Maui snorkel tour company for damage to the coral reef at Molokini. Blaine would love to continue his involvement with the protection of Hawaii's environment by becoming more actively involved with the O`ahu Group.

Karen Shishido

Karen Shishido was born and raised in leeward O`ahu. Karen last served on the ex-com in 2003. She worked in the nonprofit sector before furthering a lifelong interest in environmental issues by getting a MA in Energy and Environmental Policy from the University of Delaware. Her research there focused on land use planning, environmental justice and renewable energy. She is currently is a state energy analyst, working on climate change policy, green buildings and energy conservation. If elected, she is interested in helping expand membership and working on clean energy campaigns.



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Sierra Club, O`ahu Group Executive Committee Election

Four (4) At-Large Positions — Those elected will take office in February 2009

MEMBERS MAY ALSO VOTE ONLINE AT WWW.HI.SIERRACLUB.ORG/BALLOT

In order for your ballot to be valid and to ensure the secrecy of the ballot, please do the following:

1. Two voting boxes are provided. Joint memberships should use both boxes. Single memberships must use only one box or the ballot will be invalidated.
2. **Include your name and address on the ballot.** We verify memberships and then remove the address portion prior to opening ballots. Your vote remains strictly confidential.
3. Mail completed ballot to Sierra Club, O`ahu Group, P.O. Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803. Ballots must be postmarked by Friday, February 6, 2009.

Single Joint

See Bios on Page 23

Michael M. Kliks

Steven Lee Montgomery, Ph.D.

Lydi Morgan

Single Joint

See Bios on Page 23

Carey Morishige

Blaine Rogers

Karen Shishido