



Mālama I Ka Honua

Cherish the Earth

JOURNAL OF THE SIERRA CLUB, HAWAI'I CHAPTER

A Quarterly Newsletter

October - December 2012

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WORKING TOGETHER FOR A GREENER HAWAI'I



Hawai'i voters sent a clear message at the primary ballot box: Hawai'i's environment matters. Voters overwhelmingly elected Sierra Club-endorsed candidates. Fifty-three of the 63 candidates who earned the Sierra Club's endorsement—over 80%—were selected by voters (for a list of the Club's endorsed candidates, see SierraClubHawaii.com/vote).

Voters consistently opted for candidates who supported protecting

the environment, developing clean energy, and advancing Hawai'i's agricultural self-sufficiency.

The Sierra Club is immensely proud of the time our volunteers put into making these victories happen. We took some unprecedented steps this year to ensure that the environment had a voice on election day. Sierra Club members, supporters, and endorsed candidates all across the state deserve recognition for stepping up and ensuring some monumental victories on primary election day. You can read a bit more about the Club's successful efforts on page 2.

And yet, our efforts were not made in a vacuum. We're proud of some of the partnerships we've created, such as our support of Local 5's new *AiKea* program. And we

thought it so important for others to find out about this organization's efforts that we asked Local 5 to give us a brief description of what they did leading up to election day. The following is a brief explanation of *AiKea* and their successful efforts in three different election races (the Club endorsed two of the three winning candidates).

We look forward to building stronger strategic partnerships and working together to build a shared vision of Hawai'i's sustainable future.

Launching a New Movement to Take Back Our Power Through *AiKea*

Hawai'i's working people racked up a significant victory in Hawai'i's

Continued on page 3



Hawai'i's largest and most successful
grassroots environmental advocacy organization





FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Politics matter. Good policy advances and supports Hawai'i's environment. For example, Hawai'i's five-cent bottle law shows a stark comparison: before the law was passed, we recycled approximately 20% of our containers. With the law in place, Hawai'i now recycles approximately 80% of the nearly 900 million beverage containers sold each year—more than

4.7 billion since the law went into effect in 2005. In short, good laws can drastically improve Hawai'i's environment and bad laws can open up our 'aina to bulldozers and pollution.

Developers and polluters know the importance of politics. That's why they give major amounts of money to candidates. It helps buy them influence.

The Sierra Club tries to keep legislators accountable for their actions through our Capitol Watch program and our endorsement process. And yet sometimes more direct engagement is needed. While we are disappointed when legislators side with developers or polluters at the expense of the environment, it becomes more galling when a legislator misleads the public as to his or her true positions. It was, for example, deeply frustrating when Mufi Hannemann took credit for curbside recycling when he so actively opposed it during his tenure as mayor. It's one thing to oppose an environmental program. It's another to lie about your opposition.

The lack of accountability helped the Sierra Club PAC decide to actively oppose Hannemann in his bid for Congress. The Club created and promoted the **MufisRecord.org** website, organized phone banking sessions with dozens of volunteers, and lobbied strongly in favor of our endorsed candidate, Tulsi Gabbard. When the race started, Mufi Hannemann polled nearly 40 percentage points ahead of Gabbard. While Gabbard obviously ran a terrific campaign, we believe our ability to shine a light on Mufi's record helped voters make a better choice.

Similarly, Pono Chong claimed he protected the environment when, in reality, he led the fight to gut Hawai'i's renewable energy tax credit and consistently voted in favor of undermining state environmental laws. The Club's State PAC took the unprecedented step of mailing four different flyers to voters in the district and created the **NotPono.org** website so voters could make an informed choice: vote for an environmental champion (Jessica Wooley) or vote for someone who consistently supported developers and polluters (Pono Chong).

We believe our efforts contributed to Hanneman's and Chong's defeats. This isn't the "fun" part of politics. We'd rather be celebrating environmental success stories. But we recognize that politicians must be made aware that they will be held accountable for their votes. And so we at Sierra Club Hawai'i will continue our efforts to educate the public and, we hope, ensure that good policies will be passed that protect our environment.

—Robert D. Harris



Mālama I Ka Honua

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- 1/4 page (\$110)
- 1/8 page (\$60)
- Bus. Cards (\$50)

These rates are subject to change. The *Mālama* accepts political advertisements only from candidates endorsed by the Hawai'i Chapter.

Greener Hawai'i

Continued from page 1

primary election on August 11, providing a powerful kickoff for a new political movement to "reclaim Hawai'i for Hawai'i's people." The *AiKea* coalition went three-for-three in the primary election, proving that working people's votes can make a powerful difference—when we each make an intelligent individual choice to vote as a single block.

AiKea is a new movement—one that embraces our diversity, promotes justice, and rejects politicians who break their word and the public's trust. As in all other communities, political life in Hawai'i has become increasingly dominated by banks and developers, leaving working people unrepresented.

AiKea is a movement committed to the simple idea that working families must lead and vote so that everyone can work, everyone can learn, everyone has a home, and everyone respects and preserves our island home.

The Hawai'i we now know and call home has changed dramatically, but when working people stand together—united for a common cause—good things can happen. As the saying goes, "When we vote together, we win together."

Last year, Local 5—alongside other key community leaders—set for itself an ambitious goal of launching a new political movement, a movement that speaks directly to the idea of reclaiming power for ordinary working people in our neighborhoods.

Early in 2012, Local 5 deployed staff and key worker committee members to a program of organizing a series of "town hall" meetings in our communities. These meetings brought rank-and-file leaders from our workplaces together with progressive community activists, where our members found that their concerns extend far beyond the workplace, that they are shared by the community around us. Discussion ranged broadly from schools and education to public transportation to water quality, the



depletion of fishing resources, and, of course, jobs and employment.

Our series of town hall meetings was capped by a mass conference of activists from our union and from the community. In mid-May 150 of Local 5's strongest rank-and-file leaders were joined by nearly 90 other community leaders from around the islands, including leaders from the Sierra Club. At the conference, participants debated how to approach the various issues facing our communities, and at the end of the day we adopted a collective statement that reflected our values and goals. The conference was also the formal kickoff of the *AiKea* political movement.

Armed with the statement setting forth our collective community program, Local 5's PAC committee launched a series of candidate interviews, challenging candidates who were seeking the union's endorsement for public office to sign on to our collective statement of goals and values.

After identifying three particular races where each candidate endorsed *AiKea's* platform, an intensive door-to-door operation was put into place.

In both workplaces and neighborhoods we found many

people whose faith in elections and the political process was broken. People are cynical and discouraged, doubting that their vote can make a difference and disgusted that their elected officials have abandoned ordinary citizens to serve the interest of banks and corporations.

For those people, our message was a breath of fresh air. We came with a different message—a message that made sense. While everybody else was telling people that electing their candidate would make things better, we explained that the way to make all the politicians respect ordinary people was through building power—the power working people can have in elections only if we vote together.

This common-sense message impressed people hungry to find a way to turn politics around. People angry at politicians for betraying the public realized that we were different from the same-old, same-old "vote for me" message of all the other campaigns. Our program offered hope to people discouraged and demoralized at how bad things have become.

And it worked. On election night, as the voting results were

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FROM THE CHAPTER CHAIR

By Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers

It has been a pleasure to serve you as Chapter Chair this past year. Special thanks to Robert Harris and the Hawai'i Chapter Executive Committee, an amazingly diverse and talented group of individuals who worked extremely hard this year.

A very special mahalo to Rick Barboza and Janice Marsters, who have decided not to seek re-election this year. I hope they will continue to participate and provide us with their special skills and expertise.

Election Day is rapidly approaching. I encourage everyone to vote in the General Election on November 6, 2012. Many Sierra Club-endorsed candidates were successful during the primary and need our support to continue building on that momentum. Our environment depends on you, so please vote!

There are two other important Sierra Club elections as well. This edition of the *Mālama* contains biographies and ballots for the Chapter Executive Committee election as well as for each of the four Groups. Please review the candidate biographies and cast your ballots in both the Chapter and your local Group elections. Your vote can make a difference.



Mazie Hiroo with Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers at a rally in Hilo in August

Lastly, in keeping with the Sierra Club Mission to "Explore, Enjoy and Protect": Explore—come take a hike with us; Enjoy—participate in a program, party, service trip, or social event; and Protect—don't forget to vote! After you vote, perhaps I'll see you on the trail.

Aloha,
Roberta

Sign Up To Become an Outings Leader

Outings Leadership Training will be held on October 20-21 on O'ahu. This is a hands-on training session for anyone interested in being a volunteer leader for day hikes, service projects, and weekend/week-long trips to Neighbor Islands.

Saturday Oct. 20 - Outings Leader Training 101 (*Required for one-day outings, hikes, and service projects*)

Sunday Oct. 21 - Outings Leader Training 201 (*Required for overnight and week-long outings and service projects*)

Contact Jennifer Homey

(jenhomcy@sierraclubhawaii.com) for more information.

Support Green Politics

Make a Donation to the Hawai'i Sierra Club's Political Action Committee!

Contributions to the Hawai'i Chapter's Political Action Committee (PAC) will support our efforts to elect Sierra Club-endorsed candidates to public office. These donations are not tax-deductible, but they go to the worthy purpose of getting good green leaders elected.

Because of the special nature of these gifts, we regret that we are unable to accept credit cards for PAC donations at this time.

Please make out your check and mail it to:

Hawai'i Sierra Club PAC
PO Box 2577
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Additionally, for reporting purposes, please include your home address, occupation, employer, and employer's zip code so that our PAC Treasurer can appropriately report your gift.

Volunteers in the Spotlight

High School Hikers' Fred Nakaguma Volunteer Leader for over 20 years

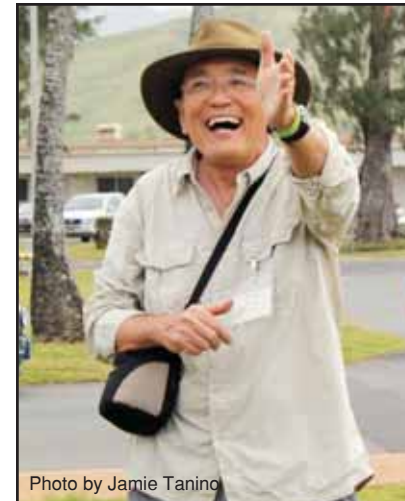


Photo by Jamie Tanino

Fred Nakaguma has been one of the most consistent, reliable, and dedicated volunteers for the Sierra Club's High School Hikers Program for more than two decades. After a 20-year career serving our country in the Air Force, he decided to become a schoolteacher and earned his degree in secondary education at the University of Hawai'i. In 1991, while teaching science at James Campbell High School, he started a hiking club and joined up with High School Hikers.

He has chaired many of our annual Ecology Camps, always spending many hours preparing instructional materials, locating suitable camping facilities, and coordinating stimulating guest speakers to help students understand what a remarkable ecological treasure we have in these islands. He has introduced high schoolers to our best state and county parks and has always maximized the environmental significance of these special areas. He has also taken students and adults on weeklong field studies of Neighbor

Islands, from the glorious mountains of Koke'e on Kaua'i to the parched deserts of Ka'u on the Big Island. He has coordinated all the logistics of taking as many as 100 students on these extraordinary adventures.

Although Fred has retired from teaching, he remains an active volunteer and has served as chair of most of our standing committees over the years. He also serves as chair of the Hawai'i Science Teacher's Association's Environmental Section and has taken many teachers on hikes and field trips to introduce them to the joys of outdoor education. A dedicated environmentalist with a deep respect for the Hawaiian culture, Fred always tries to impart the importance of protecting and preserving these magnificent islands.

Maui Group's Karen Chun Webmaster, Blogger, and More!



When Maui Group needs to communicate its message to the wide, wide world, Karen Chun has the skills and creative talent to make it happen. She is a retired water management engineer who is now actively engaged

as a software designer and webmaster for numerous worthy causes.

Karen's long service on the Maui Group executive committee has included her organizing some colorful events such as the Huli Pupule Canoe races (think political candidates paying Sierra Club for the privilege of fielding teams in colorful costume to "race" against their rivals). When Maui Group and allies organized Superferry protests at Kahului Harbor, Karen was there with up-to-the-minute signs and bumper stickers to hand out, recently created on her printer. As Maui Group's secretary and webmaster, she keeps everything organized, from Maui Group fundraising letters to candidate interviews and questionnaire responses. There's no way to thank her enough, although she and her husband Malama have received Maui Group's Volunteer of the Year award.

Karen and Malama are also active canoe paddlers. In her "spare" time, Karen keeps an active presence on numerous state and national blogs, making sure the environmental side of the story gets heard. We can't reveal her many aliases here, so you will just have to guess!

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Planting Native

by Rick Barboza

'Thi

Portulaca molokiniensis
Endemic: Molokini, Kaho'olawe

Description: Short and stocky is the best description for these rare succulents. They have thick leaves that usually cluster towards the top of an even thicker stem. These plants usually branch up from the ground and look more like tiny cactus than *Portulaca*. They also have a cluster of bright yellow flowers that sit in a cup of leaves which rises up from a long tube above the plant; they're really cool looking. By far these are one of the most exotic-looking plant specimens from Hawai'i if not the world.

Distribution: These plants are fairly rare and are restricted to coastal rocky areas with only three known populations on Molokini island (which is that tiny horseshoe-shaped island off the coast of Maui), Pu'ukoa'e islet, and Kaho'olawe.

Landscape Use and Care: This type of 'ihi look great anywhere; they even look good in pots for the lanai. In landscapes, put them around larger landscape stones as accents. They like well-drained soil and full sun. The best way to water these plants if they don't have well-drained soil is to soak the ground and not

water again until the soil is dried out. Few pests bother this plant, but if you begin to notice tiny black spots on the leaves just spray with any type of plant pesticide and you should notice the new leaves being spot free.

Additional Information: There are four known native species of *Portulaca* in Hawai'i which came from two distinct colonizations. One of these includes both *P. villosa* and *P. sclerocarpa*, which are two endemic and very rare species. They are very similar in appearance with both having linear succulent leaves and pink-and-white flower petals. The other colonization comes from *P. lutea*, which is an indigenous species with yellow flowers and rounder leaves. It is believed that *P. molokiniensis* evolved from this plant to become its own endemic species.



Greener Hawai'i

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announced, all three of the candidates selected won! We have achieved a great victory. But we know it is only a start. There's another election coming up in November, another campaign to run. But even more, now we have to use the power we have built to actually make change. Elections are important, but not enough. We now have to follow up our excellent work in our neighborhoods to build a real organization in our community—an organization that can fight for working people on the street, in the City Council, and in the state legislature.

In the end, we introduced the idea of *AiKea* to thousands of people. In 33 days, we knocked on 31,680

doors and talked to 12,331 voters. We identified a progressive block of voters to participate in *AiKea*, and in this way have begun to lay a critical foundation for our vision and platform to take shape.

"*AiKea* offers an alternative to the status quo—behind it is a movement and behind that are the people who want a better future not just for ourselves but for our children. What we gained out of this election is that our strategy is effective when we vote as a block, and we need to do it over multiple election cycles to really prove that it's gospel. I also think it works when you have something as attractive as *AiKea*. In these hard economic times,

when we see our environment disappearing—no fish in the sea, strange weather patterns and storms, our land being developed away—the conditions are ripe for something like *AiKea* to emerge. *AiKea* captures those feelings."

—Raytan Vares
Local 5 Summer Intern

One of our biggest successes in the campaign was an opportunity to recruit, train, and support new leadership through our political program. We are proud and look forward to continuing to build new leaders and strategic partnership with community allies like the Sierra Club.

Follow and join us on Facebook at [facebook.com/aikeavote](https://www.facebook.com/aikeavote) ■

Vote for your Sierra Club Leadership!

O'ahu Group Candidate Biographies

Anthony Aalto

Anthony Aalto is chair of the O'ahu Group. He helped found and is a board member of Save O'ahu Farmland Alliance. He helps lead the fight against Ho'opili and Koa Ridge. He helped create and chaired the club's Capitol Watch. He is leading the fight to pass food sustainability legislation in the legislature. He chaired the SC independent PAC that helped elect Tulsi Gabbard and has raised thousands of dollars for the club's political and campaign activities.

Randy Ching

Randy Ching has served on the O'ahu Group Executive Committee for 10 years. He has been Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chapter Delegate and has served on the Chapter Executive Committee. He's been an outings leader for 19 years and O'ahu Group Outings Chair for seven years. He has served in almost every volunteer capacity. He's a board member of Save O'ahu Farmlands Alliance and a leader in the fight against development of Ho'opili and Koa Ridge—the best remaining ag land on O'ahu.

Anna Kelly

Anna is Office Manager at the State Office of Environmental Quality Control, where she also researches and assists with the annual report for the Environmental Council. She has a Master's in Comparative Politics and a Graduate Certificate in Sustainability from the University of New Hampshire. Anna would like to recruit a new generation of younger Sierra Club members to harness their energy and activism for the environmental cause, especially in sustainable development, renewable energy, recycling and opala, and protecting the oceans.

Blake McElheny

Blake McElheny was raised in Pupukea on the North Shore. He has a law degree and Environmental Law Certificate from UH and extensive experience in community organizing and collaboration with local government and non-profits. He serves as a founding board member of Kokua Hawai'i Foundation, was a founding board member of North Shore Community Land Trust, and is a member of the North Shore Neighborhood Board. Blake enjoys helping clean public parks like Hale'iwa Beach Park Mauka, and longboarding.

Steven Montgomery

A UH Ph.D. and field biologist, Steve has discovered 30 new species, including cold-hardy species on Mauna Kea. He has written about Hawaiian fauna in *National Geographic* and *GeoJournal*, bringing science to general audiences. He has been an adviser to Discovery's Animal Planet, BBC, and NOVA among others. He served 10 years on the Land Use Commission and Natural Area Reserves. He chairs the club's Political Committee and is a 30-year volunteer with the Conservation Council of Hawai'i and other environmental groups.

Kaua'i Group Candidate Biographies

Carl Imparato

Carl Imparato has served on the Kaua'i Group Executive Committee since 2006. He led the 2008 campaign to require County compliance with its General Plan for development and helped negotiate Kaua'i's annual growth limit ordinance. He has crafted the Kaua'i Group's testimony on issues including shoreline access, park commercialization, protection of Wailua Beach, noise, and preservation of agricultural lands and rural character. Carl is currently a leader in efforts to protect the ridge above the Hanalei River from development.

Bob Nishek

Bob Nishek is a lifetime Sierra Club member who has been leading hikes and service projects on a regular basis for the Kaua'i Group for over 22 years. He served on the Kaua'i Group Executive Committee for three terms. Bob regularly co-ordinates a Native Hawaiian plant restoration project for the Sierra Club as well as invasive plant species removal projects. He is an expert on plants and manages National Tropical Botanical Gardens' endangered native plants propagation project.

Rayne Regush

Rayne Regush has served on the Kaua'i Group Executive Committee since 2004 and has been the Kaua'i Group representative on the Chapter Executive Committee since 2008. Her expertise in land-use laws and planning make her an effective spokesperson for the Group to preserve Kaua'i's rural character, agricultural lands, coastal areas, cultural resources, and public access. In 2011, the Group honored her as Sierra Club Environmentalist of the Year. Rayne also serves as Chair of the Wailua-Kapa'a Neighborhood Association.

Richard Stillman

Richard Stillman has lived in Hawai'i (Kaua'i and the Big Island) for over nine years. He appreciates and respects the grandeur and beauty that is unique to Hawai'i. He was appointed by the Kaua'i Group Executive Committee to complete the term of a member in January. During that time, he has become more enlightened with regard to development projects and ongoing practices which threaten the delicate balance between humankind and nature and is committed to protecting the natural environment.

Candidate Biographies

Maui Group Candidate Biographies

Dottie Binder

Upcountry resident Dottie Binder is a small-business owner and serves as vice chair of the Democratic Party on Maui and Upcountry Member of the Democratic State Central Committee. She enjoys gardening and is very concerned about the environment and political problems facing our country. Dottie would like to serve on the MG board to help take care of people and the Earth.

Lucienne de Naie

Lucienne de Naie is a long-time Club member who has served as Chair and Vice Chair of the Sierra Club Chapter Executive Committee. She is a researcher and writer whose passion is protection of native plants, streams, watersheds, and cultural sites.

Michael Duberstein

When Michael Duberstein first came to Maui, an almost immediate weekly maintenance kuleana to the nearby Kihei Boat Ramp and South Maui Heritage Trail blossomed into his involvement with the Rotary Club of Kihei-Wailea and to his research efforts for the Superferry trial team. It also led to his being asked to join the Board of the Maui Tomorrow Foundation as well as to his roles as Treasurer of Akaku Maui Community Television and Democratic Party District Eleven (South Maui) Chair. He currently serves on the Maui Group Executive Committee

Linda Puppolo

Linda Puppolo's career includes working for over thirty years as accountant and business administrator in both the private and nonprofit sectors. Her recent work experience includes CEO of Bamboo Technologies LLC, administrative director of Akaku Maui Community

Television, and operations manager of the largest protea farm in the US. In her 28 years in the Maui community, Linda has been a driving force in community events and a "Women of Maui" award recipient. She is currently Maui Group treasurer.

Chris Taylor

Chris Taylor's love for nature, education, and technology provides the foundation for his work. While studying Sustainable Technology at the University of Hawai'i Maui College he founded the Sustainability Club and served as president of the Peace Club. In addition to his small computer business Chris has helped with other community projects such as MauiFoodWeb.org and the Maui Farmers Union. He understands the importance of growing food locally and supports self-sufficiency and food independence. He currently serves on the Maui Group Executive Committee.

Moku Loa Group Candidate Biographies

Nelson Ho

Nelson Ho has been a Sierra Club volunteer leader, Chapter Chair, Chapter Conservation Chair, and Regional Vice President. He has lobbied in Washington on behalf of the Hawai'i Chapter and represented Hawai'i at the national HQ in San Francisco. Nelson has been an outspoken advocate of lessening the industrial impacts of international astronomy on top of Mauna Kea. He has worked for Mayor Harry Kim in environmental management and for two years was County Council Member Brittany Smart's legislative assistant.

Nadine Keaulani Robertson

Nadine Keaulani Robertson is a longtime member of Sierra Club, appointed to the Executive Committee this year to fill a vacant seat. She is active with the MLG

Conservation Committee, member of Surfrider Foundation-Hilo, volunteer with Hawai'i Wildlife Fund and UHH-Performing Arts Center, and receptionist with Isemoto Contracting Co. for over 14 years. She spent 12 years as a US Navy Reservist, Petty Officer 2nd Class, Yeoman, and served in Operation Desert Shield.

Deborah J. Ward

Deborah J. Ward has been an active member and leader in Moku Loa Group for thirty years. She is currently serving as Moku Loa Group Chair, and is also a member of the Conservation Committee and the Chapter Executive Committee. Retired from the university, Debbie is farming organic fruit in Kurtistown. She is anxious to encourage younger outdoor enthusiasts and activists to take part in club endeavors.

Chapter Executive Committee Candidate Biographies

Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers

Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers, a Sierra Club member for 26 years and Big Island resident, is a tenured professor of Biological Sciences at Hawai'i Community College. Actively involved in outings and service-learning field trips for youth, she currently serves as Hawai'i Chapter Chair, Moku Loa Group vice chair, Council of Club Leaders vice chair and budget officer. She is planning the 25th Anniversary of the Hawai'i CC Earth Fair for April 2013 and working to increase youth involvement in Sierra Club activities.

Bianca Kai Isaki

Bianca Kai Isaki, PhD, studies at the William S. Richardson School of Law. She works with the boards of KAHEA: The Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance, the Conservation Council for Hawai'i,

and others advocating for the creation of whole decolonized, demilitarized, and environmentally just communities in Hawai'i. She wants to contribute to the development of Sierra Club's policies on proposed undersea electric cables, natural gas importation, and other public interest conservation issues in Hawai'i.

Jennifer Lucien

Jennifer Lucien spent 7 years working under Rep. Morita, Chair of EEP Committee, focusing on critical issues like renewable energy development, shoreline access, recycling programs, and neighbor-island concerns. This invaluable insight into the importance of carefully considered policy led her to run for the Executive Committee,

Candidate Biographies

hoping she can further Sierra Club's vital mission. She's a past board member of Surfrider Foundation and the Landscape Industry Council of Hawai'i, a lifelong environmentalist, and a knowledgeable businesswoman with a multidimensional perspective.

Malama Minn

Malama Minn is originally from Hana, Maui, and is the first female graduate of Hana High School to earn a law degree (William S. Richardson School of Law). As the Transformational Outreach Specialist for Hawai'i Energy, Malama identifies and establishes partnerships that support the program's objectives of energy conservation and efficiency. Malama also spent two years as Wind Energy Specialist in the Hawai'i State Energy office, where

she facilitated the environmentally responsible development of renewable energy projects.

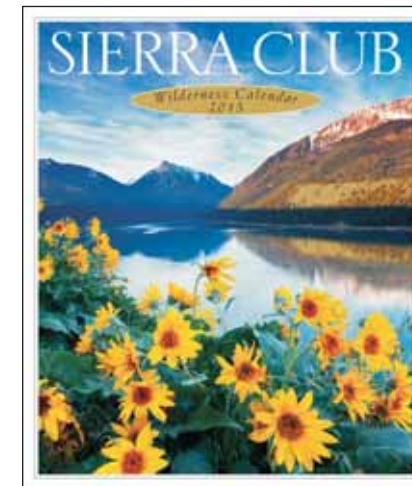
Sheila Sarhangi

Sheila Sarhangi, an award-winning writer and environmental communications specialist, has brought critical research from the scientific field to a broad audience as a siren for the current state of our natural world. She also works for SeaWeb, an international nonprofit dedicated to the communication of ocean issues. In this role, Sheila coordinates initiatives around policy and behavioral change across the Asia Pacific. If re-elected, she will spearhead a mentorship program between veteran environmentalists and emerging sustainable leaders.



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Nate's Adventures

koa'e'ula

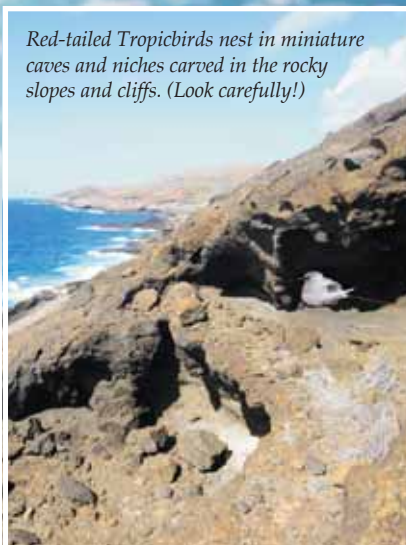
Red-tailed Tropicbirds



by Nate Yuen



Koa'e'ula can grow up to 36-42 inches long (including tail) and have wingspans up to 44 inches across.



Red-tailed Tropicbirds nest in miniature caves and niches carved in the rocky slopes and cliffs. (Look carefully!)



Red-tailed Tropicbirds are pelagic seabirds indigenous to the Hawaiian Islands and are found throughout the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

For the past several months I have been hiking along the rugged Ka Iwi Coast of East O'ahu to look for Red-tailed Tropicbirds, or koa'e'ula, during nesting season. The first baby chicks I saw in March piqued my curiosity, and I decided to return regularly to see the chicks grow, mature, and fledge.

Red-tailed Tropicbirds (*Phaethon rubricauda*) nest in miniature caves and niches carved in the rocky slopes and cliffs along the rugged coastline. Although the birds are neat to see on the ground, they are amazing to watch in flight.

Koa'e'ula can grow up to 36-42 inches long (including tail) and have

wingspans up to 44 inches across. The birds are almost entirely white but have some black accents on their heads and flanks. Their most distinctive features are their long red tail feathers and bright red beaks. They often soar high overhead in the sky, with their long red tails streaming behind.

Red-tailed Tropicbirds are pelagic seabirds indigenous to the Hawaiian Islands and are found throughout the Pacific and Indian Oceans. The breeding population in Hawai'i is estimated between 9,000 and 12,000 pairs, with the largest populations on Midway Atoll and Laysan Island in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands. The worldwide population is estimated to be between

17,000 to 21,000 breeding pairs, with most of them in the Pacific Ocean.

One of the coolest things to see is their acrobatics in the air. The birds fly in vertical circular loops diving past each other and actually fly backwards! Another cool thing to watch is how the birds land on the rocky cliffs over the ocean. Their webbed feet drop down and their wings rotate in an egg-beater motion to slow their air speed. The birds hover momentarily in midair just before landing on the rocky cliffs.

Some koa'e'ula have tail feathers that are longer than the bird itself. The tail feathers were prized in ancient Hawai'i and were used to make kähili—royal feather standards—the



Some koa'e'ula have tail feathers that are longer than the bird itself. The tail feathers were prized in ancient Hawai'i and were used to make kähili.

symbols of chiefly rank.

Both parents take turns incubating the egg and hunting for the chick. When baby chicks first hatch they are covered with a soft gray down, except for their faces, which are naked and black in color.

The parents are protective and squawk loudly if they feel threatened or if you approach too closely. They take turns hunting and bring back fish and squid for the chicks to eat.

White feathers begin to sprout on their black faces and juvenile feathers begin to emerge. The chicks have voracious appetites and are soon covered with black and white plumage. Juveniles grow rapidly and within 4 to 5 weeks become as large as their parents.

Although I returned week after week to see the chicks in first flight, luck was not with me as I never saw them flying.

Red-tailed Tropicbirds are beautiful seabirds with a fascinating life cycle. I will try again next season to see juvenile chicks in first flight. There is much to look forward to next year!

To see a video, more photos, and the complete article on Red-tailed Tropicbirds go to Nate's website at hawaiianforest.com and look under the August 2012 blog entries.



Both parents take turns incubating the egg and hunting. The parents are protective and squawk loudly if they feel threatened.



When baby chicks first hatch they are covered with a soft gray down—except for their faces which are naked and black in color.

Nathan Yuen is an artist/photographer/naturalist whose body of work is a confluence of hiking, conservation, and fine art photography. Each weekend you can find him hiking, backpacking, or kayaking to out-of-the-way locations to photograph Hawai'i's native plants and animals, many of which are rare or endangered. His goal is to showcase these biological treasures to give you a reason to protect them for future generations. Nathan has a website at HawaiianForest.com where you can see his art and read about his adventures.

O'ahu Group Report

Elections

The Executive Committee was deeply involved in the primaries. Steve Montgomery chaired both Chapter and Group Political Committees, which interviewed and endorsed slates of candidates. We thank Albert Perez and Jonathan Scheuer for their help. Matt LoPresti ran a great campaign for State House District 41, highlighting environmental and social causes the Sierra Club stands for. He lost to Rida Cabanilla but won a very respectable 1,268 votes, setting the stage for a new effort in 2014. Joy Leilei Shih served as treasurer of the state Political Action Committee that did such a tremendous job.

Anthony Aalto chaired the local campaign of the Club's Independent PAC, which raised tens of thousands of dollars to help Tulsi Gabbard defeat Mufi Hannemann in Congressional District 2. The OG also raised thousands of dollars to support the State House campaigns of Jessica Wooley and Nicole Lowen. The Sierra Club role in all three elections was substantial and decisive. We have put politicians on notice: we'll be a good friend to those who work for the environment and implacably opposed to those who would trash it.

Ho'opili and Koa Ridge

Our attorney Eric Seitz filed a State Supreme Court appeal challenging the Land Use Commission decision on these matters on both procedural and constitutional grounds. We believe the LUC abrogated its responsibility to "conserve and protect agricultural lands, promote diversified agriculture, increase agricultural self-sufficiency and assure the availability of agriculturally suitable lands." Eric is donating much of his work pro bono, for which we are extremely grateful. However we agreed

to pay his expenses and must raise thousands of dollars. If you wish to help defend our farmlands, please consider donating to our legal fund. We're preparing a long-term strategy in case the decision goes against us: we'll fight the zoning process in the Council and we'll look for ways to draw the public into these campaigns.

Rail

The Executive Committee spent a lot of time debating the rail project. We share many of the concerns of those who oppose rail—the inadequate public consultation, the route, and above all the aesthetic impact of the elevated section in town. We conducted a poll of our members to gauge sentiment. We did not get a large response and several members complained that they did not see the poll announcement in the last *Mālama* or did not receive the two email notifications. The poll proved inconclusive—our membership is roughly divided. In the end the Executive Committee voted unanimously to endorse the Sierra Club's more than 20-year support for rail. You can find a full explanation of our views here: sierraclubhawaii.com/railfaq.php

Our biggest concern: the population of O'ahu is projected to grow 200,000 by mid-century. If we continue to accommodate that growth using the suburban sprawl model of the last 50 years, we'll pave another 22 square miles by 2050. That would destroy our ability to build a new agricultural economy and to reduce our dependence on imported food; it would lead to another \$9 billion of road projects and forever destroy the beauty of the 'aina we are duty-bound to protect. To avoid that fate we must push all new housing projects into the existing urbanized corridor on the leeward coast. And the only way

to handle another 200,000 people in that corridor is to build an efficient mass transit system. We concluded that no light rail or bus rapid transit system that operates on the same roadways as cars will be able to operate efficiently and thus would not halt the preference for suburban living. To be efficient the system has to be buried or elevated. Our high water table makes burying the entire system prohibitively expensive—which leaves us with little option but to support this elevated system. If the HART project goes forward we will campaign to address our concerns—including an effort to bury the section in town. We also intend to hold an open meeting to allow members to discuss this decision.

Future

We'll soon discuss priorities going forward including Governor Abercrombie's proposal to kill the solar tax credit and gut our renewable energy industry, introduction of liquid natural gas to Hawai'i, Envision Laie's sustainable community plan, and proposed water code revisions. We'd love to hear your comments.

Anthony Aalto
Chair and Secretary, O'ahu Group

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or by calling
(808) 538-6616**

O'ahu Group Outings

See Page 19 for General 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, Honolulu. Do not leave your car in the church parking lot.

Classification of outings: (E) Education/ Interpretation, (C) Conservation, (F) Family/Fun, (S) Service

Saturday, October 6

Mau'umae Short and Sweet late hike (F)
3 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Kaimuki
RSVP required. Limited space. Meet at 1 p.m. This short 3-hour hike has a great cardio workout on the hills behind Wilhelmina Rise. We will turn around before reaching the summit in time to enjoy snack hour from 4-6 p.m. hosted by Reese Liggett and Suzan Harada. Jean Fujikawa 203-8508, John Shimogawa

Sunday, October 7

Family Hike: Pu'u Pia Trail (F)
Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Wear closed-toe shoes with good traction. Bring a liter of water, snack, raingear. Sunscreen, hat, insect repellent recommended. For those who have not hiked in a long time or would like an easy hike. Randy Ching 942-0145

Saturday, October 13

Mānoa Falls Trail project (S)
Help improve one of O'ahu's busiest trails and make it a showcase for hiking in Hawai'i. Tasks include trail graveling and widening, soil top dressing, removal of old boardwalk and rock work. We can accommodate only 20 people per work day. RSVP required. Send email to restoremanoa@gmail.com and include your phone number and the dates you wish to participate. Ed Mersino, Jim Waddington, Mel Yoshioka

Saturday, October 13

Kaneohe Bay MCBH service project (S)
Reservations required. Call Annette Kaohelaulii at 235-5431 by Oct. 11. Help clear a wetland of mangrove plants to create habitat for Hawai'i's endangered waterbirds. 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. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sunday, October 14

Photography Hike: Wahiawa Botanical Garden (E/F)
1 mi/Easy/Tropical Environment/Wahiawa
Reservations required. The pace of photography hikes is extremely slow. Tropical botanical garden with native plants, colorful flowers, and foliage. Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa, John Shimogawa, Marie LaBerge

Saturday, October 20

Make a Difference Day: Manana Trail (S)
4 mi/Moderate/Ridge
Join us for Make a Difference Day. We will hike the first couple of miles of the Manana Trail, clearing the ridge of invasive Australian Tea, Gunpowder Tree, and other invasive species. Bring gloves and tools like clippers and loppers as well as lunch and water. After the hike we will have refreshments at the leader's home. Ed Mersino, mersino@hawaii.edu, 455-8193

Saturday, October 20

Queen Kapiolani Gardens Service Project Phase VI (S)
Join the City's Division of Urban Forestry and the Sierra Club in maintaining a native Hawaiian



garden. Meet at the garden (bordered by Monsarrat/Paki/Leahi Avenues) at 8 a.m. Tools will be provided. Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa, John Shimogawa, Marie Laberge, asst. Susan Tom

Saturday, October 27

Ala Wai Boat Harbor Cleanup (S)
Meet at 8 a.m. 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. Closed-toe shoes only. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sunday, October 28

Pu'u 'Ohia/Tantalus Crater (F)
2 mi/Easy/Ridge crater/Tantalus
Wet rainforest environment with many native plants. Low light conditions. Bring mosquito repellent and raingear. John Shimogawa 227-9925, Stan Oka, Clyde Kobashigawa

Sunday, October 28

Mānoa Falls Trail project (S)
See October 13 for details.

O'ahu Group Outings

Sunday, November 4

Wailupe Valley (F)
4 mi / Easy / Valley / Aina Haina
Meet at the Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. We'll go 2 miles up a gradual incline to a shady Boy Scout camp under a Cook pine grove. The hike is mostly in the shade. Randy Ching 942-0145

Saturday, November 10

Mānoa Falls Trail project (S)
See October 13 for details.

Sunday, November 18

Hawai'i Loa Ridge via Pia (F)
5 mi / Strenuous / Valley / Ridge / Niu Valley
Using some stealth a very easy valley hike turns very quadriceps-tic tough as we endure steeply climbing a native-covered ridge. Rich Bailey 723-2213, Dan Anderson

Sunday, November 18

Mānoa Falls Trail project (S)
See October 13 for details.

Sunday, November 18

Photography Hike: Kamehame Ridge (E/F)
2mi / Easy / Ridge / Hawai'i Kai
Reservations required. The pace of photography hikes is extremely slow. Beautiful scenery of Hawai'i Kai and Waimanalo from top of the Ko'olau Range. Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa, John Shimogawa, Marie LaBerge, asst. Susan Tom

Sunday, December 2

Family hike: Aiea Loop Trail (F)
Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Wear closed-toed shoes with good traction. Bring a liter of water, snack, raingear, sunscreen, hat, insect repellent. For those who have not hiked in a long time or would like an easy hike. Randy Ching 942-0145

Sunday, December 2

Sandy Beach Cleanup (S)
Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Sandy Beach

bathroom at eastern side of beach park. Clean up along highway and coastal areas until 10:30. Call Tred (394-2898) for information. Bags, gloves provided. All participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by their legal guardian to participate. Please contact the leader for the waiver. Closed-toe shoes only. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Saturday, December 8

Kaneohe Bay MCBH service project (S)
Reservations required. Call Annette Kaohelaulii at 235-5431 by December 6. Help clear a wetland of mangrove plants to create habitat for Hawai'i's endangered waterbirds. 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. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Saturday, December 8

Mānoa Falls Trail project (S)
See October 13 for details.

Sunday, December 9

Kealia Trail & Access Road Hike
6 mi / Moderate-Strenuous / North Shore (F)
Reservations required. 8 a.m. meet at trailhead. 1 mile of switchbacks above Dillingham Airfield. 1.9-mile ridge road ends with views of Mākua Valley. Dan Anderson 690-0479, danderhi@gmail.com; Richard Bailey

Sunday, December 9

Sierra Seminar: Hui Ku Maoli Ola and Papahana Kuaola (F/E)
This outing is reserved for Sierra Club Outings Leaders/Prospective Leaders only. Attendance is limited and reservations are required. Join us for an educational tour of Hui Ku Maoli Ola and Papahana Kuaola conducted by its co-founder, Rick Barboza. Rick and Matt Schirman are passionate about the cultivation and preservation

of Hawai'i's natural history and culture by integrating educational opportunities with habitat restoration and providing high-quality native Hawaiian plants in many of their projects. This is a unique opportunity to see and hear their incredible story first hand. Reservations required. Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa, John Shimogawa; asst. Susan Tom

Sunday, December 16, 2012

Photography Hike: Kaena Point (E/F)
5 mi / Easy / Coast / Waianae
Reservations required. The pace of photography hikes is extremely slow. Very hot, humid with beautiful coastal and ocean scenery. Some native plants. Bring lots of water, sunscreen, hat, and lunch. We plan to leave the church at 7 a.m. since the drive to the trailhead is very long. Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, John Shimogawa, asst. Susan Tom, Ronette Morales

Saturday, December 22

Mau'umae all the way to Pu'u Lanipo (F)
7 mi / 2000' elevation gain/loss / Strenuous / Ridge / Kaimuki
We will hike all the way to the Ko'olau Summit on this roller coaster hike. Great views of Windward O'ahu. Bring plenty of water. Ed Mersino mersino@hawaii.edu, 455-8193

Sunday, December 30

Kuli'ou'ou-Hahione Loop (F)
7 miles / Strenuous / Valley and ridge / Hawai'i Kai
Not for those afraid of heights. We go up the Kuli'ou'ou Side Door trail and contour below the ridge to Hahaione Valley. Then up the steep ridge to the Ko'olau summit, across the summit to Kuli'ou'ou state trail, and finally back down to our cars. The state trail has 260 new and repositioned steps, courtesy of Sierra Club volunteers. Randy Ching 942-0145

Book Review

A Delightful Tale of O'ahu Trails

Stuart M. Ball, Jr. *Native Paths to Volunteer Trails: Hiking and Trail Building on O'ahu*. University of Hawai'i Press, 2012.

All avid hikers and former hikers will love this fascinating history of O'ahu trails, as they recall many happy hours strolling along a meandering streambed to a refreshing waterfall and pool or climbing to a ridge to view forever.

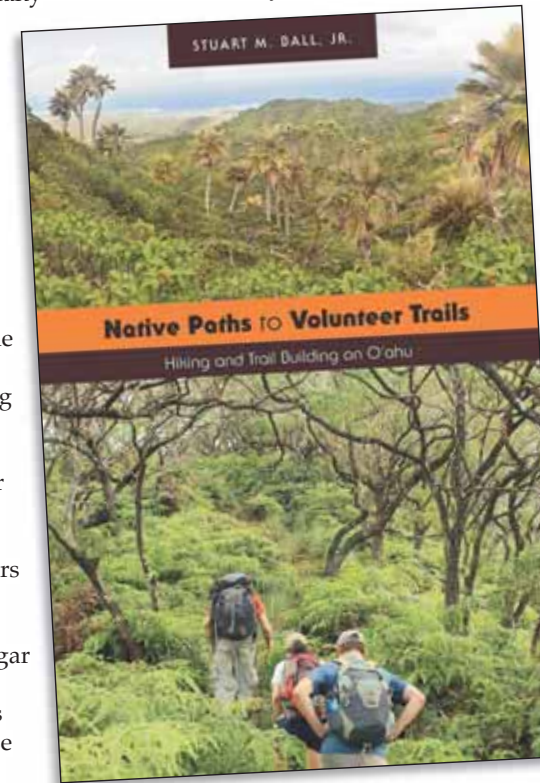
All the trails that modern-day hikers enjoy had to be built by someone in the past. Stuart Ball provides a history for us of how the early Hawaiians created paths and trails in the native forests and lowlands and used them for harvesting and gathering food and materials or to travel to another part of the island for trade. The author continues the history with details of how sugar plantation workers hand-built trails and water systems in the mountains to bring water to the thirsty sugar cane fields in the lowlands. In the 1940s the military was building trails for the defense of the island of O'ahu from foreign invaders. Then through the years the state forestry division built and maintained trails to protect the precious watershed of the island. The history of modern-day trails built by volunteers and hiking clubs mainly for recreation rounds out this fascinating review of trail building.

This fascinating historical overview on O'ahu trails brings back many fond memories of the days when I spent my Sundays tramping around in the forest. Ball recalls many of the colorful characters I hiked with each weekend. Wonderful tales about Richard "Dick" Davis, Richard Booth, Robert Wenkam, Silver Piliwale,

Thelma Grieg, Lorin Gill, Ralph Inouye, Erwin "SkiPoles" Jaskulski, Mabel Kekina, Herman Medeiros, and many others kept me reading for hours. For hikers who can no longer hike these trails, the vivid descriptions will make you glad you were able to be there to create the memories evoked by Ball's history. To those of you who are hiking every chance you get, knowing some of the history of the

Thelma Grieg, Lorin Gill, Ralph Inouye, Erwin "SkiPoles" Jaskulski, Mabel Kekina, Herman Medeiros, and many others kept me reading for hours. For hikers who can no longer hike these trails, the vivid descriptions will make you glad you were able to be there to create the memories evoked by Ball's history.

To those of you who are hiking every chance you get, knowing some of the history of the



trails, how they came about, and who built or maintained them, will make you appreciate them all the more. To a trail builder, there is no better feeling than to walk over "your" piece of trail hewn out of raw hillside, releasing the earthy smell of fresh dirt and creating a new route through the landscape.

Get this book and stir up those fond hiking memories. Enjoy the photos and appreciate the opportunity to get out and explore. And imagine if you will, how hikers got to the trail in the early 1900s.

—Annette Kaohelaulii



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- John Muir

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Kaua'i Group Report



Billionaire Pierre Omidyar's development plans threaten the pristine views at Hanalei Bay.

Please Come To Our Annual Sierra Club Picnic!

Sierra Club members, families, and friends are invited to our annual potluck picnic at Lydgate Beach Park on Sunday, October 28, noon to 3 p.m. (Details on Kaua'i Outings page.) Meet other Sierra Club members, the Kaua'i Group Executive Committee, outings leaders, and special guest Gary Hooser. Our beautiful 2013 Sierra Club calendars will be available, so you can get yours early. **We hope to see you there!**

Hanalei Threatened by Billionaire's Luxury Development Plan

The development company owned by Hawai'i billionaire Pierre Omidyar is moving forward with its proposal to transform the bluffs above the Hanalei River into a haven of exclusive luxury vacation properties. The proposal would line the ridge that overlooks the river, Hanalei Pier, and Black Pot Beach Park with up to 34 vacation-rental mansions. It also includes an 86-unit hotel centered around the Kamo'omaika'i fishpond.

The proposed Omidyar Resort is not just another Princeville luxury resort—it is a unique threat that would irreparably damage the scenic, environmental, and cultural qualities that make Hanalei Bay

unique in all of Hawai'i.

Omidyar's development company is downplaying the size and impact of the project by keeping many details under wraps. But based on lot sizes and steepness, the types of mansions built on similar sites, and the developer's statements, it is likely that the development would be 2-3 times as large as anything ever proposed for the site. The visual impacts of the project are undeniable, as the ridge above the river frames Hanalei Bay and is critical to the low-key, natural character of Hanalei's beaches and waters.

The developer claims that private covenants would force owners of the resort-mansions to build sensitively and retain vegetation that would shield the resort from public view. But logic and experience dictate that owners' desires to maximize *their* views will inevitably result in maximizing the size of the structures and removing all view-blocking vegetation. The reality will be development that maximizes the resort's visual impacts.

It is astounding that the wealthiest person in Hawai'i, otherwise known for philanthropy, would knowingly choose to use his fortune to transform one of the most beautiful locations in the Hawaiian Islands into yet another luxury vacation destination.

So earlier this year, the Kaua'i Group became one of the founding

members of the Hanalei Bay Coalition, whose mission is to protect Hanalei from this inappropriate development. The coalition's first goal was to contact Omidyar, in the hope that he is unaware of the desecration his investment group is pursuing and that he would consider his unique opportunity to conserve rather than despoil by committing to a conservation easement or shifting development off the ridge. But our attempts at constructive engagement have not been encouraging: Omidyar's staff has rebuffed all requests to meet with him.

If the coalition cannot prevail on Mr. Omidyar's sense of responsibility to protect one of Hawai'i's most beautiful places, it will take up the fight at the county and state levels and in the courts. Omidyar's right to build is subject to regulations, including the North Shore Development Plan and the state's Special Management Area rules, that require protection of the view planes that are essential to Hanalei's character.

Sierra Club members can help today by signing and circulating the petition to Save Hanalei Ridge (signon.org/sign/stop-the-development). We continue to hope that Mr. Omidyar will become aware of the deep significance of this land and recognize his unique ability as the one person who can choose to either threaten or protect the heart and soul of Kaua'i's north shore.

See Page 19 for General Outings Information

Join us on one of these great outings to explore, enjoy, and care for our island. Mileage is round trip unless otherwise indicated. Requested donation for members and participants under 18 is \$1. Donations for others: \$5. Check out our website: hi.sierraclub.org/Kauai/index.html Note: Women are advised not to hike remote trails or camp alone on Kaua'i.

Classification of outings: (E) Education/ Interpretation, (C) Conservation, (F) Family/Fun, (S) Service

Would you like to become a Sierra Club Outings Leader? Please give us a call at 482-1129.

Saturday, October 13

Nukoli'i Beach Cleanup
East Shore/1.5 miles (S) This coastline needs continuous monitoring to remove plastics and other litter which pose a threat to seabirds and marine life. Turn makai off the highway just south of the Wailua Golf Course onto an unpaved road past the Moto Cross to the beach. Look for Sierra Club signs. Meet at 9 a.m. Jeff Vesci 755-5587, Judy Dalton

Sunday, October 14

Bike Ride ("Tour de Poipu")
South Shore/moderate/18 miles (C/E/F) Mostly level, scenic coastal ride. Finish with a tour of Makauwahi Sinkhole/Cave. Bring your own mountain bike or cruiser; helmet required. Allan Rachap 212-3108

Saturday, October 20

Kuilau Ridge Trail
East Side/moderate/ 3.5 miles (E/F) Lush forested hike with valley and mountain views. Great reward for moderate effort. Erica Watson/Denny Jackson 647-0727

Friday, October 26

National Tropical Botanical Gardens Moonlight Walk & Service Project
South Side/moderate/2 miles (C/E/S) Hike and learn about propagation of

Kaua'i Group Outings

native plants in lovely gardens. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 346-0476

Saturday, October 27

Hanalei Beach Full Moon Walk
North Shore/ 3 miles/ easy (E/F) Stroll under a harvest moon from Black Pot to Pine Trees and return. Jane Schmitt 826-6105

Sunday, October 28

Members' Annual Potluck Picnic at Lydgate Beach Park, noon-3 p.m.
Sierra Club achievement awards will be presented while we enjoy a bountiful buffet at 12:30. Your favorite earth-friendly vegetarian potluck items are especially welcomed. We'll supply beverages. The small pavilion just before the large pavilion by lifeguard station is reserved for us. Please bring a lawn chair; seating is limited.

Saturday, November 10

Berry Flat Trail
Koke'e / moderate/4 miles (C/E/F) Wonderful forested hike through groves of koa, sugi, and redwood trees. Erica Watson/Denny Jackson 647-0727

Sunday, November 11

Maha'ulepu
South Shore/ moderate/ 3 miles (C/E/F) Spectacular coastal walk with stunning views. Visit the sinkhole/cave archeological site. Allan Rachap 212-3108

Sunday, November 18

Wailua River Cleanup by Kayak and Hike
East side/ moderately strenuous (S/C/F) Enjoy a paddle up Wailua River while picking up litter along the way. Sierra Club members only. Delightful hike to Secret Falls. Kayaks courtesy of Kayak Kaua'i. Jane Schmitt 826-6105

Saturday, November 24

Kealia to Anahola Coastal Walk
East Shore/easy/4.5 miles (C/E/F) Miles of wild and wonderful coastline from Kealia to Anahola. Shuttling cars makes this an easy one-way hike. Judy Dalton 246-9067

Monday, November 26

Nonou (Sleeping Giant) Conservation Service Project
East side/strenuous/4 miles (C/S) Tend

to endangered native plants in their habitat and enjoy a full moon walk. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 346-0476

Saturday, December 8

Jewel of Koke'e
Strenuous/7 miles (C/E/F) Spectacular hike through the forest of Koke'e, Black Pipe Trail, Canyon Trail, and Po'omau Canyon Lookout. Cross over Waipo'o Falls for a view of Waimea Canyon to the ocean. Ken Fasig 346-1229

Sunday, December 9

Maha'ulepu
South Shore/ moderate/ 3 miles (C/E/F) Spectacular coastal walk with stunning views. Visit the sinkhole/cave archeological site. Allan Rachap 212-3108

Saturday, December 15

Kalalau to Space Rock
North Shore/ strenuous/ 6 miles (C/E) Panoramic coastal views of the Na Pali coast are the highlight of this hike, along with a chance to spot whales at Space Rock. Jane Schmitt 826-6105

Friday, December 21

Waimea Canyon Road Cleanup
Easy/ 2 miles (S) Afternoon cleanup of Sierra Club's adopted highway requires a little over an hour. Please help keep the gateway to Waimea Canyon litter-free. Bob Nishek at 346-0476

Thursday, December 27

Maha'ulepu Sunset to Full Moon Walk
South Shore/ moderate/3 miles (C/E/F) Start out in late afternoon from Shipwreck Beach to Maha'ulepu to enjoy the sunset and an almost full moon over the glistening ocean. Spectacular coastal walk. We'll shuttle cars to make this a leisurely one-way hike. Judy Dalton 246-9067

Friday, December 28

Haena to Ke'e Sunset Beach Walk
North Shore/ easy/3 miles (C/E/F) Walk along a scenic coastline ending with a view of Na Pali and a chance to see the full moon rising over the sea. Kathy Valier 826-7302

Maui Group Report & Outings

UPDATES ON MAUI CONSERVATION ISSUES July - September 2012

North Shore Heritage Park & Ho'okipa Expansion: North shore park lands are "protected" in growth maps adopted by Council's General Plan Committee. Final vote in November.

East Maui Streams: The Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation (NHLC) petitioned the state land board (BLNR) to reconvene contested case hearings. At stake: diversions from East Maui streams allowed under a "holdover" permit. NHLC contends that the diversions must cease until an environmental assessment is conducted.

Na Wai Eha Stream Restoration: The Hawai'i Supreme Court upheld an appeal by Earthjustice/Hui o Na Wai Eha and Maui Tomorrow and overturned the State Water Commission decision restricting 'Iao aquifer stream restoration to 12 mgd. The matter returns to the Water Commission for further action.

Hamakuapoko Wells: Will an environmental review required to bring the wells online and treat the contaminated water include discussion of the cumulative effects of multiple contaminants on the treatment process? Stay tuned.

Haleakala Solar Telescope (ATST): The newest Hearing Officer's report to BLNR says the agency followed the law in approving the 14-story telescope. NHLC, representing Kilakila O Haleakala, filed objections, saying that BLNR action does not comply with state law. Updates at kilakila.org

Regulation of Aquarium Fish Trade:

It should be illegal to plunder our reefs. For the latest on actions you can take: forthefishes.org

MIP: The Maui County Council majority avoided "directing growth" and took an "approve it all, because only some will get built" attitude toward future development. Thousands of unneeded units in Olowalu, Makena, and Upcountry were added to growth boundary maps. Join the Reverse the Vote/Rally for the Reefs campaign at mauimorrow.org

Wastewater Injection Wells: A federal judge roundly denied Maui County's request to dismiss a complaint filed by community groups, including Sierra Club, alleging that the Lahaina Wastewater Plant violated the Clean Water Act. Next step: Negotiations or court. Goal: cleaner discharge and more irrigation reuse of treated water.

A&B's Waiale Development: Serious questions remain about this 2,500-unit project's water supply and wastewater plans as well as its efforts to preserve additional burial dunes. Maui Group continues to monitor its approval process.

Wailea 670: The Maui Planning Commission accepted Wailea 670's Final EIS (July 24) even though the document "left out" meaningful discussion of alternative designs (e.g., a 130-acre native plant/cultural preserve) and avoided discussing impacts of 250 off-site units. Legal action is possible.

Makena Resort: Community groups challenge substandard archaeological work on Makena Resort lands that would allow important cultural sites to be destroyed. Maui Council bowed to the resort owner's pressure, adding 390 acres of land to Makena's Growth Boundaries. Thank Council members

Couch, Hokama, and Cochran for opposing this unneeded allocation. Join the Reverse the Vote campaign (see MIP above).

Kihei Mega Malls: It's official. The state Land Use Commission (LUC) will hear arguments that two retail malls and 250 housing units were never discussed during the project's 1995 approval. Maui County officials contend they have no obligation to consider LUC conditions, or their own Community Plan.

Ukumehame Roadwork Runoff: State DOT exempted the "fast track" Honoapiilani Highway shoreline hardening project from environmental review, claiming the area "had no reefs." Wrong. Result: an exposed red clay layer has sent silt plumes across the reefs. Citizen groups want someone to take responsibility to halt damage and reverse the state's misguided attempts to bypass needed review and public comment.

MAUI GROUP OUTINGS

Classification of outings: (E) Education/ Interpretation, (C) Conservation, (F) Family/Fun, (S) Service

East Maui Irrigation Company (EMI) allows us to hike across their beautiful land so long as each hiker has a waiver. An EMI waiver is absolutely required for EMI hikes (listed below). One waiver covers all EMI hikes for this quarter. Call in your waiver request to Kawika or Mark at 579-9516 well in advance to make an appointment for when you can sign it. Then go to EMI's Pa'ia office at 497 Baldwin Avenue to sign the waiver. Waivers cannot be mailed, faxed, or emailed. Please be considerate of EMI staff time and pick up waiver 5 days in advance whenever possible. The waiver must be brought on the hike and shown to the hike leader.

Maui Group Outings



Olowalu shoreline hike will explore this historic coast.
Photo by Ron Dahlquist

Saturday, October 6

Olowalu shoreline historical hike & snorkel (C/E)
D=2 mi R/T. Moderate. Some sections may have no formal trail. We will explore the coast along the public beach reserve to Olowalu landing and learn about the area's rich history and cultural sites. Footwear suitable for beach and tidal areas recommended. Bring snorkel gear, swimwear, water, and lunch. Meet 9 a.m. at 14-mile marker on Honoapiilani Highway. Limit 20. Contact Hike Leader Lucienne de Naie laluz@maui.net, 214-0147.

Saturday, October 20

Pi'inau Road Hike (E)
D=TBD. Moderate. A beautiful tree-lined hike up Pi'inau Road. Distance can be determined by the group. Wear supportive footwear as road is rocky.

EMI Waiver required. (See above) Bring water, lunch, hat, rain jacket. Meet 8:30 a.m. at Haiku Community Center. Limit 20. Contact Hike Leader Kalei Johnson kalei1908@gmail.com, 344-0006

Saturday, November 3

Wahine Pe'e (E)
D=8 mi R/T. Strenuous (uphill) Spectacular hike in East Maui

Watershed above Hana Hwy through beautiful forest with pools and waterfalls. EMI Waiver required. (See above) Meet 8:30 a.m. at Haiku Community Center. Bring water, lunch, hat, raingear. Limit 15. Contact Hike Leader Kalei Johnson kalei1908@gmail.com, 344-0006.

Saturday, November 17

Olowalu Service Trip (at Olowalu Cultural Reserve) with optional stream hike (C/E/S)
D=1.5 mi R/T for stream hike. Moderate hike, but involves numerous stream crossings on slippery rocks. Service outing involves weeding taro lo'i or planting native plants. Good water footwear a must for both. Meet 8 a.m. at Olowalu General Store to drive to Olowalu Cultural Reserve. Bring hat, water, lunch, camera. Limit 15. Contact Hike Leader Lucienne de Naie laluz@maui.net, 214-0147.

Sunday, December 2

McGregor Point historical walk & snorkel (north of Ma'alaea) (C/E)
D=2 mi R/T. Moderate hike, but involves descent along narrow trail to the shoreline, and exploration of historical sites could involve informal trail access. Access to ocean is from a rocky ledge and will depend on ocean conditions. Meet at 9 a.m. at McGregor Point turnoff, Honoapiilani Hwy—roughly, across (makai) from Kaheawa wind farm access gate. Bring hat, water, snack or lunch, and snorkel gear if you plan to go in. Limit 15. Contact Hike Leader Miranda Camp mauimiranda@hotmail.com, 264-5640.

Saturday & Sunday, December 29-30

Nu'u Bay Hike with possible camping option (Kaupo area) (C/E)
D=3 mi R/T. Moderate hike, but involves narrow trails over rough lava flow areas as well as cobblestone shoreline. Spectacular views of the Kaupo coastline, ancient cultural sites, and rare wetland native bird sanctuary are all part of the exploration of this area recently preserved by Hawaiian Islands Land Trust. Overnight camping and more exploration the next day are options. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Pukalani Terrace shopping center (by Bank OH) to carpool to Kaupo. Bring hat, water, lunch, sturdy hiking shoes, and camping gear and food for next day if appropriate. Limit 12. Contact Hike Leader Miranda Camp mauimiranda@hotmail.com, 264-5640.

SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS POLICY

For 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 permitted only 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 you: a liter of water (2 liters for strenuous hikes), lunch, sunscreen, insect repellent, raingear/jacket, and daypack. **Boots, shoes with traction grooves (no loafers), or tabs are required.** Unless otherwise noted, no bare feet or sandals of any type will be allowed. 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 interest of facilitating the logistics of some outings, sometimes 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 specific islands: Each group may have its own outings policy. Please look at each group's page or website for more specific information on where to meet or what to bring with you.

Moku Loa Group Report

All members are invited to join us for the Moku Loa Group Annual Meeting, potluck, and program at Wailoa Park on December 7 at 6 p.m. Paper goods, drinks, and good company will be on hand—let's all contribute some tasty dishes and support zero waste by bringing your own plates and utensils. Election results will be announced, and our hard-working Executive Committee members, hike leaders, and volunteers will be honored. Watch the newspaper for more on the program. We hope you'll join us for this festive event!

POLITICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Sierra Club political committee members worked to evaluate the written responses and interviews of the electoral candidates. We were cheered by the primary victories of endorsed candidates representing the Big Island, including Tulsi Gabbard, Mazie Hirono, Gil Kahele, Nicole Lowen, Zendo Kern, and Karen Eoff. Other candidates endorsed by the club, including Russell Ruderman, Harry Kim, Margaret Wille, and Brenda Ford, will face a runoff within their parties in the upcoming general election.

Hawai'i Island voters will have an opportunity to vote on the 2% Land Fund and the Preservation Maintenance Fund charter amendments on the November 2012 ballot. Charter amendments can only be changed by a vote of the people, not the council or mayor. When the mayor and council suspended deposits to the fund from 2009 to 2011, the county experienced reduced funding for land acquisition for open space and protection. There are numerous properties identified by the Public Access and Open Space Commission that communities want to acquire. Properties acquired by the county since 2006 include Waipio Lookout,

Kawa Bay, Kaiholena, Pao'o, Kingman Trust along Alii Drive. Sierra Club members have testified in support of additional purchases, including O'oma II, Pohoiki Bay, Keawenui access, Kahuku, Mahukona, Waikaku'u ancient forest, and many more.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Geothermal Energy: Twenty years have passed since Sierra Club established a policy calling for a moratorium on geothermal development, following the Puna geothermal well blowout and community evacuation in the early 1990s. Anticipation of new development planned for Puna has raised concerns in the community about the potential effects on community health and the environment, leading to dozens of community meetings and hundreds of hours of testimony in support of an emergency evacuation plan, and allocation of funds for relocation of residents within a buffer zone. After months of work by the Group and Chapter, Sierra Club has approved a new policy, calling for review of key issues before any new development can be considered. To read the policy, go to sierraclubhawaii.com/geothermal-energy-policy.php



Encroachment on public shorelines is an issue on all islands. Members are providing comments on the Ocean Resources Management Plan to address this and many other coastal issues.

Public Lands: Administrative rules for the Public Lands Development Corporation (PLDC) drew heated and unanimous testimony in opposition at hearings in Hilo and Kona in August. Members voiced concerns regarding the privatization of public lands, lack of criteria for selection and decision-making, and loss of public access. Members called for legislative repeal of the law, which exempts the PLDC from complying with state and county land use laws and regulations that exist to protect the public's interests. The PLDC law (Act 55) creates a double standard for the development of public lands by exempting them from the regulations that exist to protect Hawai'i from unwise land development.

Biofuel: Aina Koa Pono, an untested biofuel scheme in rural Pahala, is again being considered by the Public Utilities Commission, after it was soundly rejected earlier this year. Life of the Land and Hawai'i County have both filed to intervene, citing the impact that the electric rate increases would have on local families and county services.

Agritourism sounds like a good thing, but our members are concerned about a zoning change with minimal county oversight being considered for passage. Since the number of visitors to a farm operation could involve 30,000 visitors annually, our members are asking for neighbor notification, bona fide agricultural activity, legal road access, and county review of both major and minor operations.

Axis Deer: The island's newest invasive species, the axis deer, was deliberately released by those who do not care about our island and our natural resources, putting farms and habitats at risk, and putting grave new demands on public budgets. Crews are being hired to find and remove the deer before they become more numerous.

Moku Loa Group Report & Outings

OUTINGS & SERVICE PROJECT REPORT

The roof is leaking! Friends of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge (FOHF) plans to replace the roof of the volunteer cabin, which has housed crews who have planted half a million native and endangered trees and controlled many acres of invasive weeds. The refuge is a long, rough drive, so most volunteer groups spend at least one night, and Sierra Club service trips play a featured role. Members may make a donation payable to Friends of Hakalau Forest NWR; write "Volunteer Cabin Roof" on the memo line and mail to FOHF, PO Box 6065, Hilo, HI 96720. For more information, visit friendsofhakalauforest.org.

Deborah Ward,
Chair Moku Loa Group

MOKU LOA GROUP OUTINGS

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. For full descriptions and updates go to www.hi.sierraclub.org/Hawaii/outings.html

Saturday, September 29
Kalopa Service Trip (E, S)
Leader Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers 966-7002

Saturday, October 6
Kaumana Cave (E)
Leaders Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers 966-7002 and Kana Covington 966-8431

See Page 19 for General Outings Information

Saturday, October 13
Pep'e'keo Cliffs Dayhike (E,C)
D = 3 miles E = 200' +/- 100' Walk



Sierra Club members enjoy a blooming Mauna Loa silversword while Kilauea volcano steams in the background.

along high sea cliffs, enjoy vistas, seabirds, historic sites. Leaders Michael and Sunny La Plante 964-5017

Sunday, October 14
Byron Ledge/Devastation Trail Dayhike (E, F)
D = 4 miles, E = +400/- 400' Start at the Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park Visitor Center and end at Pu'u Pua'ai Overlook on Crater Rim Drive (via car shuttle return) on park trails. Leaders Diane Ware 967-8642 and Rich Vogler 328-8387

Saturday and Sunday, October 27-28
Outings Leader Training Retreat—new trainees welcomed! (E,C)
Coordinator Sarah Moon 934-3475

Saturday, November 3
Kaohe to Ho'okena Dayhike (E)
D = 8 miles, E = sea level Rugged, exposed coastline hike (mostly lava) passing cultural sites with no continuous established trail. Starts at Kaohe (Kona Paradise) and ends at Ho'okena (via car shuttle return). Leaders Diane Ware 967-8642 and Rich Vogler 328-8387

Monday–Thursday, October 29 - November 1
Saturday–Monday, November 10 - 12
Pu'u Mali Outplanting
Contact puumali.kaoh@gmail.com

Saturday, November 10
Lokoaka Trail Service Day (S, E, C)
Help clear trails to pristine Hilo lagoons. Leaders Jan and Sarah Moon 935-3475

Saturday, November 17
Trail Maintenance Service Trip in Kohala (S, E)
D = 3 miles, E = +/- 300' New Moon Foundation in Kohala cares for the 'iole ahupua'a. Meet at the Historical Bond Homestead for trail maintenance. 8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Lunch provided. Leaders Sarah Moon 935-3475 and Rich Vogler 328-8387

Saturday–Sunday, December 1 - 2
Pu'u Mali Seed Collecting
Contact puumali.kaoh@gmail.com

Saturday, December 8
Halape Trail Dayhike (E)
D = 7 miles, E = -300' Challenging hike down Hilina Pali, ending at Mau Loa o Mauna Ulu on Chain Of Craters Road in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park (via car shuttle return). Leaders Diane Ware 967-8642 and Rich Vogler 328-8387



Mauna Kea silverswords, outplanted by Sierra Club members, are flowering in the alpine deserts.

Chapter Directory



"To explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives."

MAIN OFFICE

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 Treasurer..... Jim Waddington • 947-2732

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 Website..... Jim Yuen • jimyuen@hawaii.rr.com
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O'AHU GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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 Member..... James Anthony • driant@aol.com
 Member..... Lindon Morris • linny@linnymorris.com

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 Conservation, Membership..... Marge Freeman • mfreeman5@hawaii.rr.com
 Conservation, Helicopter Noise..... Carl Imparato • carl.imparato@uno.com
 Conservation, Land Use..... Rayne Regush • rayneregush@aol.com
 Webmaster..... Richard Stillman • chop_skr@yahoo.com

MAUI GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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 Director..... Nancy McPherson • nanimcp7684@gmail.com
 Energy Chair & Director..... Daniel Grantham • 572-4571 • dannygr@hawaiiantel.net
 Director..... John Bruce • jonthebru@gmail.com
 Director..... Dr. Janet Six • six@hawaii.edu

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 Outings..... Sarah Moon • 935-3475
 Outings..... Diane Ware • 967-8642 • volcanogetaway@yahoo.com
 Fundraising..... Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers • 966-7002
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Group and Chapter Executive Committee Election Ballot

Please vote in both the **Chapter** and your **Group** election — instructions on back or vote online at sierraclubhawaii.com/ballot

Please Vote in the Chapter Election



CHAPTER ELECTION (Vote for no more than 3 candidates)

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | See Bios on Page 8-9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | See Bios on Page 8-9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Malama Minn |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Bianca Kai Isaki | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sheila Sarhangi |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jennifer Lucien | | | |

Please Vote in ONLY ONE (1) Group Election



(Your Ballot may otherwise be disqualified)

O'AHU GROUP ELECTION (O'ahu members vote for no more than 4)

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | See Bios on Page 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | See Bios on Page 7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Anthony Aalto | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Blake McElheny |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Randy Ching | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Steven Montgomery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Anna Kelly | | | |

KAUA'I GROUP ELECTION (Kaua'i members vote for no more than 3)

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | See Bios on Page 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | See Bios on Page 7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Carl Imparato | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rayne Regush |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Bob Nishek | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Richard Stillman |

MAUI GROUP ELECTION (Maui members vote for no more than 5)

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | See Bios on Page 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | See Bios on Page 8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Dottie Binder | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Linda Puppolo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lucienne de Naie | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Chris Taylor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Michael Duberstein | | | |

MOKU LOA GROUP ELECTION (Moku Loa members vote for no more than 3)

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | See Bios on Page 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | See Bios on Page 8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nelson Ho | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Deborah J. Ward |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nadine Keaulani Robertson | | | |

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Volunteer Spotlight
Chapter Reports & Outings
And Much More!

Protecting Hawai'i's Environment, Mauka to Makai!

Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter

October - December 2012



Ballot Inside! Choose Who Runs the Sierra Club!



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION INSTRUCTIONS

Vote for YOUR Group Executive Committee and Chapter Executive Committee

Those elected will take office in January 2013

MEMBERS MAY ALSO VOTE ONLINE AT: www.sierraclubhawaii.com/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. If joint members wish to vote for the same candidate, they may check the "joint" box. Single members must use only the "single" box or the ballot will be invalidated. No cumulative voting is allowed (voting multiple times for the same candidate).
2. Include your name and address or your membership number (printed on the label above) on your return envelope. Ballots submitted without a name and address or membership number may be invalidated. We verify memberships and then remove the identification portion prior to opening. Every effort is made to keep your vote confidential.
3. Mail completed ballot to ELECTIONS · Sierra Club · P.O. Box 1137 · Hilo, HI 96721-1137. Ballots must be postmarked by November 15, 2012.