



# Mālama I Ka Honua

## Cherish the Earth



JOURNAL OF THE SIERRA CLUB, HAWAII CHAPTER

A Quarterly Newsletter

October - December 2009

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# Let's Hang 'Em Up!

*Saving the environment one piece of clothing at a time*

by Robert D. Harris

It's funny how one of the best ways to save money and the environment does not involve some fancy twenty-first century invention. Rather it's a tiny line and hanger we like to call a clothesline.

The savings for switching to a clothesline can be dramatic. On average, a household could reduce its electric bill by 10% simply by eliminating the use of an electric dryer. On Kaua'i, for example, where the cost of electricity has been near



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\$0.40 per kilowatt-hour, a family might spend \$450 annually on typical electric

clothes dryer usage.

Unfortunately, many homeowner associations have prohibited the use of using the sun to dry clothes—clotheslines—and some simply make it very difficult to use a clothesline. For example, the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions for the Ewa by Gentry development state that "...no outside clothes line or other outside clothes drying or airing facilities shall be maintained on any lot unless the same are screened from view and are not visible from neighboring property."

This brings up the question: why would someone oppose something as benign and useful as a clothesline? Unfortunately, it seems some people have the wrong attitude about seeing someone's bvd's (underwear) drying in the sun. While such an aesthetic condition might have

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FROM THE  
DIRECTOR'S DESK

In the process of organizing the Chapter office, I've recently had the unique opportunity to review over forty years of Mālama I Ka Honua newsletters. I was struck by how many articles focused on hiking, service projects, and native plants. The Club is, and always will be, an outings organization.

That's why I'm delighted to introduce the first of what hopefully will be many columns by two guest contributors. On page 3, Rick Barboza of Hui Ku Maoli Ola writes about native plants -- their cultural usage, where they're found, and also how to grow these plants in your yard. Native plants are truly spectacular, but unfortunately too many people don't know much about them. If the only plant that you're familiar with is the bougainvillea, then that's the plant you're going to put into your yard. Hopefully Sierra Club members will be able to discretely suggest to their neighbors that there are other options available.

The second columnist is long-time Sierra Club supporter and photographer, Nathan Yuen. On pages 8-9, Nathan writes about his adventures hiking throughout the state. We're also blessed to have his stunning photographs made available to peruse.

Finally, we're excited to announce a Hawaii Service Trip program designed to encourage more volunteers to get their hands dirty and out on service projects. Learn more on page 13.

Hope to see you on the trails!  
- Robert D. Harris



## A Path Near & Far: Thoughts from the Chapter Chair

by Mark Glick

### Help set the agenda by making your voice heard

Organizing and guiding service trips, hikes, and outings; engaging in political advocacy on Climate Change; protecting Hawai'i's environmental review laws and water quality standards; proposing alternative energy solutions – these are a few of the many priorities that the Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter staff and volunteer Executive Committee carry out on behalf of our 5,000 plus members throughout the state.

In the recent past, Chapter legislative priorities have included passage of the Solar Roofs Bill (passed in 2008 that makes Hawai'i the first state in the nation to require solar water heaters as a standard feature on all new homes); the Legacy Lands Act (a 2005 measure to provide a reliable funding stream to better manage the state's natural areas and to purchase pristine lands for long term protection); and the Bottle Bill (the landmark 2002 measure to increase participation in recycling for specified beverage containers).

***How does the Hawai'i Chapter select our strategic priorities?*** Each Sierra Club chapter has an elected Executive Committee or ExCom to manage its affairs and activities. In Hawai'i's case, there are seven members elected by Chapter members for terms of two years, one representative from each of our four Chapter groups selected according to the group's bylaws, the Council Delegate ex-officio, and a representative from both our Service Trip and High School Hikers programs. These fourteen members of the ExCom establish Chapter policy and set the strategic priorities.

Your club is recognized as the most effective grassroots, membership based environmental organization in Hawai'i. We've benefited from outstanding leadership from the State Director, the Chapter's only full-time employee and the policy direction and support of the ExCom.

Your voice and vote is necessary to select an ExCom that is capable and committed to propose policies, activities and services that are relevant to the needs of the community and are consistent with your values and aspirations for Hawai'i.

This autumn, four at-large ExCom positions will be decided by your vote. There are seven candidates vying for these four positions and the ballots and a brief biography of each candidate can be found in this issue of Mālama I Ka Honua. The Nominating Committee has recommended a few new and old faces, ensuring that there is a healthy mix of new ideas and proven experience.

Voting for the ExCom representatives is one of the biggest ways you can participate in setting the Chapter's strategic priorities (*see pages 23 & 24*). You also have an opportunity to vote in the Group elections that are held each year. The bottom line is that we want to hear your voice – so make sure you vote in the ExCom Chapter election and in the elections for your Group representatives. We will all be better for it!



# Planting Native

by Rick Barboza

‘Ohai

*Sesbania tomentosa*



*Apua pt., Hawaii Island form*

Endemic, Endangered: All of Hawai‘i including some Northwestern Hawaiian islands

**Description:** This stunning plant is beautiful regardless of variety. It can be either a low prostrate ground cover, a sprawling shrub or even a small tree. Most forms evolved to have extremely soft, silvery-pubescent pinnate, leaves that help to reflect sunlight and retain moisture in the harsh environment where it lives. The stem-tip leaves are highly aromatic when in full sun and if enough are planted you can

*Tasty Tid-Bit: Sorry to say but the plant known to most of us as ‘ohai ali‘i is not native, in fact, it’s not even a Polynesian introduction. When it was brought to the islands it was given that name because its leaves resemble those of the real ‘Ohai and its flowers are red and yellow, the colors of ali‘i, hence the name ‘Ohai ali‘i. Plenty people get mad at me when I tell them that and they say: “Whatchu mean? My grandmadda had dat plant in her yard in Kaimuki since she was small, an den! Da buggah gotta be native! Sorry its not, but sooner or later hopefully we’ll all recognize which are the truly native plants from the “adopted” Hawaiian plants.*

smell them from quite some distance away. In my opinion they smell like sweet, ripe nectarines. The plant also has striking pea flowers that form as clusters under the leaves of the plant with each flower about 1-2 inches in length. But remember, it’s the leaf cluster at the stem tips that smell good, not the flowers. Colors range from island to island. O‘ahu has pink and yellow flowers. Moloka‘i has two forms. The prostrate groundcover has dark red flowers while the tree form has varying degrees of orange. The Hawaii island version has pink, orange and even bright yellow.



*Moloka‘i tree form*

**Distribution:** Regardless of where they are found all are listed as the same endemic, as well as, endangered species. They are found on all islands as well as some of the Northwestern Hawaiian islands in either coastal or lowland dry forests.

**Cultural Uses:** The flowers of ‘ohai are strung into lei either by stringing them front to back, side to side (facing forward, keel down) or with the keel of the flowers alternating up and down. Actually, it doesn’t matter how you arrange the flowers in the lei, as long as you are wearing this lei you’ll be “da talk of the party”. Besides looking awesome, if you hold the flower by its stem and hit it on the top of your other hand a few drops of sweet nectar will come out that you can lick up, da buggah ono!



*Ka'ena, O'ahu form*



*Moloka‘i prostrate form*

**Landscape Uses and Care:** This plant will require full sun with minimal watering and well drained soil. Watch out for aphids and spider-mites. If you notice them, either smooch'em with your fingers, shoot them off with water or you can even spray them with pesticides. This very rare but very gorgeous plant is a must have plant for anyone here in the islands and right now it is available at the Home Depot for about \$9 or at my nursery in Kane‘ohe for about the same price!

Rick Barboza co-owns Hui Ku Maoli Ola, a native Hawaiian plant nursery, with Matt Schirman. Contact him at 295-7777 or e-mail

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*Let's Hang 'Em Up*  
Continued from page 1

have been acceptable 20 years ago, it makes no sense today to restrict smart energy-saving behavior given what we now know about global climate change.

That's why the Hawai'i State Legislature recently acknowledged the importance of the "Right to Dry" and changed the law to ensure every resident

clothesline so long as the restrictions do not prohibit clotheslines altogether. Any provision in any lease, instrument, or contract contrary to the intent of this section shall be void and unenforceable.

This language isn't as straightforward as we might like, but we can hope it's a step towards teaching people to see a clothesline and say "wow, that person is really concerned about saving the



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has the ability to dry their clothes on a clothesline. The law now states:

no person shall be prevented by any covenant, declaration, bylaws, restriction, deed, lease, term, provision, condition, codicil, contract, or similar binding agreement, however worded, from installing a solar energy device on any single-family residential dwelling or townhouse that the person owns [..], or erecting and using a clothesline for the purpose of drying clothes on the premises of any single-family residential dwelling or townhouse that the person owns; provided that the board may implement reasonable restrictions with regard to the placement of the

environment" instead of simply saying "gross."

Well, as long as the bvd's are clean.

While we are searching for ways to reduce our dependency on fossil fuel, save residents' money, and decrease global warming pollution, we must not forget about the basic—and decidedly low-tech—approaches to energy conservation. Moreover, we need to encourage attitude changes about positive things like using a clothesline and riding a bicycle to work, so that people view these activities as "cool."

Got any good stories about saving energy? We'd like to know more. Send an email to [hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org).

**Has an association recently prevented you from using a clothesline? The Sierra Club would love to chat with you. Please contact us at [hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org)**

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# Plant Importation and Noxious Weed Regulation in Hawai'i:

## Current Policy and Future Directions

by Joshua P Atwood<sup>1,2</sup>, Danielle Frohlich<sup>2</sup>, Alex Lau<sup>2</sup>, & Rachel Neville<sup>3</sup>

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### Introduction

The Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (HDOA) is the regulatory organization responsible for monitoring the introduction of new plant species and regulating the transportation or sale of particularly threatening weeds in Hawai'i. As mandated by the Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), the HDOA has developed a number of Administrative Rules (AR) that regulate plant importation into Hawai'i and the designation and management of noxious weeds. While these regulations have likely had a positive impact in slowing the introduction and spread of non-native plants, there is room for improvement in existing policies. In this article, we summarize the current policies regarding plant importation and noxious weeds in Hawai'i, identify regulatory gaps, and explore options for improving Hawai'i's efforts to minimize the introduction and spread of non-native species in the future.

### I. Current Policy in Hawai'i

Plant importation is primarily regulated by four chapters of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes: HRS 141, ("Department of Agriculture," 1976); HRS 150, ("Hawaii Seed Law," 1976); HRS 150A ("Hawaii Plant Quarantine Law," 1976); and HRS 152 ("Noxious Weed Control," 1981). These statutes are implemented according to four associated chapters of the Hawai'i Administrative Rules under Title 4: Department of Agriculture, Subtitle 6: Division of Plant Industry: AR 70 ("Plant Import Rules," 1981); AR 72 ("Plant Intrastate Rules," 1981); AR 67 ("Seed

Rules," 1981); and AR 68 ("Noxious Weed Rules," 1992). Together, these rules regulate what botanical items may not be imported into or transported within the state and under what conditions.

### Interstate and Foreign Import Regulations

Under HDOA rules, all imported plant material must be declared (HRS 150A), but only certain plants require inspection, quarantine, or permits, as described by the HDOA's "Plant Import Rules" (AR 70). These rules specify restrictions on a number of plant groups that are known to harbor pests detrimental to agriculture or that are considered harmful in and of themselves. These plant groups are generally restricted by one of three methods:

1) Plant groups with specifically permitted parts (generally seeds and fruit accompanied by a treatment certificate). All other parts prohibited, except by permit.

- Grasses other than sugarcane
- Orchids and bromeliads other than pineapple
- Banana
- Coconut
- Palms
- Hosts of the European Corn Borer

2) Plant groups with specifically prohibited parts (generally parts that are propagative or may host plant pests). Except by permit, all other parts are unrestricted.

- Cruciferous vegetables
- Taro and dasheen
- Pine
- Hosts of the Caribbean fruit fly

3) Plant groups for which all parts are prohibited, except by permit.

- Coffee
- Pineapple
- Passion fruit

- Sugarcane

It is important to note that while these rules describe plant groups considered detrimental to agriculture, these restrictions and the plants described therein are separate from the list of noxious weeds and the rules describing the control of noxious weed importation.

Amendments to HRS 150A mandated by House Bill 2843 in 2008 expand the ability of the HDOA to inspect non-passenger cargo on arrival. The bill describes this authority as a response to the continued problems arising from invasive plants in Hawai'i. ("House Bill 2843," 2008).

### Interisland Transport Regulations

The HDOA has the authority to regulate the interisland transport of plants and plant parts already in Hawai'i (HRS 141-2). In general, propagative plant parts must be inspected prior to interisland transport, but "cut or harvested flowers, foliage, fruits, vegetables, and other non-propagative plant parts" do not require inspection (AR 72-5). It is interesting to note here that fruits are listed as "non-propagative" without further definition. Section 72-5 lists 17 agricultural pests, mostly insects, for which any infested plant is prohibited from interisland transportation (AR 72). For example, sugarcane, taro, dasheen, banana, and plants in the family Cucurbitaceae are generally prohibited (except by permit) when originating from areas infested with certain plant pests such as oriental beetles, taro root aphid, or plant viruses.

### Noxious Weeds

The HDOA has the authority to designate plant species as "noxious weeds" and create rules governing the intrastate transportation, eradication, and control of those species (HRS 152-2). Additionally, the HDOA may declare areas within the state as being free or

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reasonably free of specific noxious weeds (HRS 152-5). The Hawai'i Revised Statutes require the HDOA to "maintain a constant vigilance for incipient infestations" of noxious weeds and take actions to control infestations where feasible (HRS 152-6).

Under this mandate, the HDOA developed a set of rules for designating noxious weeds and subsequently created a list of noxious weeds (AR 68, hereafter "Noxious Weed List") including 75 species and 4 genera (<http://hawaii.gov/hdoa/admin-rules>). Species on the Noxious Weed List must meet at least one criterion in each of five traits:

- **Reproduction** (e.g. seeds are widely dispersed)
- **Growth** (e.g. the species competes with crops)
- **Detrimental effects** (e.g. the plant may endanger native flora or fauna)
- **Control** (e.g. the species requires extensive control)

- **Limited distribution** (e.g. the species does *not* occur on more than one island or on more than five acres).

The current Noxious Weed List includes a description for each entry designating islands or areas that are free or reasonably free of the given species or genus. The Board of Agriculture adopted this list on June 18, 1992.

Historically the Hawai'i Revised Statutes have not restricted the sale of noxious weeds already in the state. In 2008, however, the Hawai'i Legislature passed House Bill 2517 (Act 40) to amend HRS 150A-6.1 and HRS 152-3 to allow the HDOA to regulate or prohibit the sale of noxious weeds ("House Bill 2517," 2008).

The Noxious Weed Rules describe the process for adding new species to this list, namely data collection and expert review. The rules also mandate that the head of the Division of Plant Industry maintain a continuous program of study that evaluates potential additions to or deletions from the list (AR 68-10). To date no changes in entries or designations of uninfested areas have been made since the list's adoption in 1992.

According to House Bill 2517, the HDOA is "in the process of updating its restricted-plant list," though this appears to refer to species restricted from import as described by HRS 150A and not the Noxious Weed List described by HRS 152. The new legislation in Act 40 of HB2517 does, however, strengthen the ability of the HDOA to designate plants as restricted based on their environmental, rather than agricultural, impact ("House Bill 2517," 2008).

## **II. Gaps in Current Policy**

The statutes and rules regarding plant importation and noxious weeds in Hawai'i are primarily designed to minimize the impact of imported plants and weeds on agriculture. Ensuring the productivity of agriculture is a logical guiding principle given that the duties described here are under the purview of the state's agricultural department. This focus on agriculture may, however, be ineffective for species that have negative impacts outside the agriculture industry. For example, kahili ginger (*Hedychium gardnerianum*) is unregulated by current importation or noxious weed laws and is a widespread invader of Hawaiian forests (Loope and Medeiros, 1994;



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Anderson and Gardner, 1996; Daehler, 2008b). As of 1999, kahili ginger was estimated to have invaded 500 ha in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park alone (Anderson and Gardner, 1999).

Interestingly, Kahili ginger could not be considered a candidate for the Noxious Weed List because it is so widespread. Nonetheless, it is a target of frequent conservation work in areas such as Koke'e State Park on Kaua'i (Boynton, 2004). To be designated a "noxious weed," a species may not occur on more than one island or more than five total acres (AR 68-8). This regulation fails to prohibit secondary introductions of invasive species that are already present in Hawai'i and are currently being managed by state organizations and nonprofit groups, such as Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus discolor*), pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana* and *C. jubata*), and smoke bush (*Buddleja madagascariensis*). These and many other species are actively managed by government and nonprofit field crews such as the Island Invasive Species Committees. Lack of regulation of such species may undermine the ability of field crews to effectively manage invasive populations. As such, these species are examples of "the ones that got away:" species that are unregulated by current rules, have become established, and may contribute to widespread environmental damage in the future.

Together, the agricultural focus of importation regulations and the distribution limitations of noxious weed designations create a significant regulatory gap through which species without documented agricultural impacts or widespread distributions may continue to be imported and spread unchecked. A recent assessment by the O'ahu Early Detection Project (<http://www.hear.org/oisc/oahuearlydetectionproject/>) identified 133 incipient weed species with the potential to have a widespread, negative impact on Hawaiian ecosystems (Frohlich and Lau, 2008). Only 19 of these species are found on the Noxious Weed List. The species on the O'ahu Early Detection Project's survey list are often ornamental plants with the potential to naturalize, including false 'awa (*Piper auritum*), magnificent medinilla (*Medinilla magnifica*), and reverse-variegated ohia haole (*Metrosideros kermadecensis*). It is interesting to note that false 'awa and reverse-variegated ohia haole were first collected in 1986 and 1995, respectively, after the passing of the

Plant Import Rules (AR 70) and Noxious Weed Control statutes (HRS 152) in 1981 (Imada et al., 2005). Updating existing importation and noxious weed regulations would greatly benefit the effective management of such species.

### **III: Options for the Future**

#### **Permitted vs. Prohibited Species**

Hawai'i's current regulations restrict the importation and handling of certain species. An alternative system is employed in New Zealand, where plant material is prohibited by default and potential importers must obtain a phytosanitary certificate ("Import Health Standard for fresh cut flowers and foliage," 2002). While a more conservative importation policy has obvious environmental benefits for Hawaiian ecosystems, the implementation of such a program would require much planning and funding. These costs could be prohibitive, given that a 2002 regulatory review by the Hawai'i Legislative Bureau found that even existing invasive management programs are poorly funded (Ikuma et al., 2002). Implementing a more conservative importation program in Hawai'i would require a careful balance of ecological benefits and costs to taxpayers and commercial organizations.

#### **Weed Risk Assessments**

Weed risk assessments objectively quantify the invasive potential of plants based on physiological characteristics, ecological habits, or documented invasion histories. Researchers at the University of Hawai'i and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service have developed a regionally specific Hawaii/Pacific Weed Risk Assessment protocol (HPWRA) (Daehler, 2008a). The assessment generates a numerical score predicting invasiveness based on 49 questions (Daehler and Carino, 2000). Tests have shown that the assessment correctly identifies 95% of "major pests" in Hawai'i and 85% of "non-pests" (Daehler et al., 2004). As of 2008 over 700 species have been scored (Daehler, 2008a).

Of the 79 entries on the current Noxious Weed List, 27 species have been scored by the HPWRA (Appendix 1). While scores for those species were generally high, it should be noted that 29 species *not* designated as noxious weeds scored higher on the HPWRA than the Noxious Weed List average

(Appendix 2). With the exception of eight grass species, these species are unregulated by the HDOA Plant Import Rules.

Use of the HPWRA could improve the efficacy of Hawai'i's current regulations by creating a more objective analysis of invasion potential. The current criteria for this analysis are often subjective. For example, noxious weed criteria include descriptions of "widely dispersed" seeds (AR 68-4) or plants causing "severe production loss" to industries (AR 68-6), but no quantitative definitions of "wide" or "severe" are given. A revision of current regulations based on HPWRA scores could create a more comprehensive list of noxious weeds and import restrictions.

#### **Updating Current Policies and Lists**

The simplest option for improving Hawai'i's regulation of plant importation and noxious weeds is to update regulations to reflect current ecological conditions. While the list of species and plant groups restricted from import is apparently under revision ("House Bill 2517," 2008), an update of the Noxious Weed List has not been announced.

A thorough update of the Noxious Weed List, especially one that incorporates weed risk assessments, could help bridge the gap between the Noxious Weed Lists and more current assessments of incipient weeds.

Similarly, HDOA designations of areas being "free or reasonably free" of a given noxious weed have not changed since the creation of the list in 1992. Updating these designations to reflect current ecological conditions would increase the efficacy of management. Further, the removal of the strict distribution requirements of noxious weeds (5 acres or less) would make the list more inclusive and ecologically relevant.

Monitoring and managing the introduction and spread of invasive plants is a dynamic process that changes with the distribution and spread of weeds. The creation and enforcement of relevant policy must reflect this dynamism through frequent and thorough revisions that accurately describe the current state of weeds in Hawaiian ecosystems.

*Citations and Appendices are available, upon request, at the Hawaii Chapter office.*



## Nate's Adventures

by Nate Yuen

### NATIVE FLOWERS ON THE MANANA TRAIL

I hiked to the Koolau Summit Ridge on the Manana Trail to see the native plants and flowers that live in the mountains above Pu'uloa (Pearl Harbor).

The Manana Trail starts at the end of Komo Mai Drive above Pacific Palisades and gains some 1,700 feet over a distance of 6 miles to reach the summit. The trail is tough — it follows the outline of the ridge and forces hikers to climb up and down dozens of pu'u (hills) in both directions over the 12-mile round trip.



We hiked through a pair of ohia lehua trees (*Metrosideros polymorpha*) conjoined at the roots. Uluhe ferns (*Dicranopteris linearis*) thrive at the base of the trees and along the margins of the trail.



Not far beyond the Boy Scout shelter, we saw the fragrant half-flowers of naupaka kuahiwi or mountain naupaka (*Scaevola gaudichaudiana*) about three-quarters of an inch across. While these endemic flowers are by no means incomplete, their petals are situated on only one side giving them the appearance of being only half-a-flower.



While climbing up and down the many hills, we passed numerous hapuu tree ferns (*Cibotium sp.*) which have large fronds almost 5 feet long.

The higher we climbed the more native the landscape became. We stopped at several points along the trail to admire the flowers of purple naupaka kuahiwi (*Scaevola mollis*) which are even more fragrant than their white counterparts.



One of our more unusual finds were the yellow flowers of kamakahala (*Labordia hedyosmifolia*) about three quarters of an inch in diameter. While these flowers appear to be soft and delicate they are actually hard and stiff to the touch.



When we neared the summit, clouds descended and shrouded the landscape in a gentle mist. Loulu palms (*Pritchardia martii*), which are endemic to the Koolau Mountains, become much more common the closer one gets to the summit.





When we reached the summit, clouds completely block our view of the windward coast of Oahu. Since there was lots of time to explore, we turned right towards Waimano to examine the native plants that live along the summit ridge. I love to see the moss covered shrubs that live along the very edge of the mountains, like this endemic alani (*Melicope clusiiifolia*) covered in a profuse growth of epiphytic mosses and ferns.



While making our way along the summit ridge, the wind howled and clouds dumped their moisture on us

several times. Since we were cold and ill-equipped to handle the elements, we opted to turn around to explore the plants further down the Manana Trail instead.



While making our way through the clouds, we were thrilled to see an endangered haha (*Cyanea koolauensis*) in full bloom next to a manono (*Hedyotis* sp.) covered with brown moss. The pink-purple flowers of haha were about 3 inches long with a most distinctive curve. It would be neat to know what kind of bird or insect pollinated these flowers. It would need an especially curious beak or proboscis to reach the nectar at the base of the flower.



Cyaneas are in the Hawaiian Lobelioid family which are endemic to Hawaii and found no where else in the world. It is believed that the 125 species of lobelioids, which are grouped into 6 genera, evolved from a single introduction to the Hawaiian Islands 13 million years ago when Gardner Pinnacles and French Frigate Shoals — now mere coral atolls in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands — were high islands and long before the current main islands existed.



Rain fell on us once again and it was time for us to return the way we had come. As we climbed up and down each hill on our way back down Manana Ridge, I reflected on our great fortune seeing this dazzling array of native flowers. There is always something amazing to see on the Manana Trail. What a great place to hike!

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 Hawaii'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](http://HawaiianForest.Com) where you can see his art and read about his adventures.

# Sierra Club--The Advocate for the Environment

## One Member's Opinion

by Reese Liggett, member O'ahu Group

A good friend sought me out recently to complain about the political emphasis of the Sierra Club—too much he said. And he told me he wasn't going to renew. I couldn't help but respond: how else—to *advocate* for protection of wild places and the environment—but through the political system?

I ran into another person I know from my community service club—she was quitting the Sierra Club because of the ferry boat. I'm sure other members of the Sierra Club have experienced the same; and some members, themselves, may even contemplate resigning. I mentioned to her that in the case of the ferry boat the Club was advocating for the enforcement of existing environmental and constitutional law. Laws that the ferry boaters, the governor, and even the legislators had ignored—even flaunted. But she didn't want to hear or consider such.

So I'll tell you why I'm not...leaving the Club and why good citizens shouldn't... leave the Club. The reason is that the Sierra Club is the best and strongest advocate for the environment, and the harsh reality is that without a good, strong advocate, the environment and wild places would be without defense—would be at the mercy of exploiters after every dollar they can imagine.

As I pointed out to my friend, the environment is so important to the survival and enjoyment of life on earth, surely it deserves an *advocate* as capable and political as the proponents of environmental exploitation. There will always be plenty of advocates for bespoiling the environment for their own benefit, and they are always well financed and highly motivated by visions of financial gain. So long as they think they can afford a separate place to be within a nice, personal environment—as short sighted as such a viewpoint actually is--- some will use plenty of cash and effort to turn the piece of the environment they control into even more cash.

In a democracy there is but one way to advocate that is available to all the people, and that is through the political process. The Club, through its outings and other programs does do protective projects for public service, and tries to educate the public. But due to limited assets, while these are very necessary activities, they are of limited utility. There is far more efficacy in political action—i.e. getting good environmental law and policy on the books, and good leaders elected and appointed, and then advocating for the enforcement of those good laws (there being no-to-little enforcement mechanism/police power inherent in environmental law).

There have been times that I can't support each-and-every action or position the Sierra Club is taking, but nevertheless I know that the environment needs a strong advocate and so I will continue to support the Club. And I know that the leadership of the Club will consider my disagreement if I choose to bring it to them.

Regarding my friend in the opening paragraph—he responded to my argument by renewing his membership—he simply had to agree that the environment needs a strong advocate—namely, the Sierra Club.

In summary, one reason I'm in the Club is to support advocacy for the environment—without a strong Sierra Club, the environment and wild places would be nakedly exposed to more degradation.



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# Q&A

## Interview with Better Place's Brian Goldstein

**Let's start with the obvious questions: "What is Better Place?" and "What is it trying to do?"**

Better Place is aiming to reduce global dependency on oil by creating a market-based transportation infrastructure that supports electric vehicles. The main obstacle to the mass adoption of electric cars is driving range and costly batteries. Better Place eliminates these barriers through the use of swappable batteries to extend the range of the car and by owning the batteries directly so the driver doesn't have to. With an infrastructure of battery charging spots and battery exchange stations, drivers experience the feeling of infinite range at a cost less than the cost of driving a gasoline-powered car.

**What exactly is a "subscription-based model" and how would it work?**

A subscription-based model enables consumers to own electric cars for costs comparable to, or less than, gasoline-powered cars. The model is similar to those seen in the mobile market where wireless network operators offer customers subscription-pricing options and various models of mobile phones at significantly reduced rates. The batteries that power the cars are owned by and considered part of the Better Place network. This model dramatically alters the economics of electric car ownership for drivers, while preserving the social contract drivers have with their cars. To match multiple customer segments, Better Place automotive OEM partners will offer several car models and subscription pricing packages that will reduce total cost of ownership.

**Why electrical vehicles? And what has changed since GM "killed the electrical vehicle?"**

It is becoming clear that the world's addiction to oil cannot be sustained. Fuel prices are higher than ever before. At the same time technological developments, particularly those related to battery technology, mean that electric cars are becoming more advanced and less expensive.

The mass adoption of electric cars requires four elements:

- Electric cars produced by major car companies that are competitive with current internal combustion engine (ICE) cars and offer comparable or superior customer experience;
- Safe and affordable batteries with a reasonable driving distance between charges;
- Exchangeable battery stations and ubiquity of charge networks to ensure high customer confidence in the availability of charging locations; and
- An affordable business model that reduces total electric car ownership.

**A number of people are quite happy with their hybrid vehicle. Why do you consider electrical vehicles better?**

Both types are better than the conventional internal combustion engine cars, but electric cars use absolutely no gasoline while hybrids do. Depending on driving style and distances, hybrids may offer only a 20 percent reduction in gasoline use - so the addiction to oil remains. Electric vehicles powered by renewable energy not only contribute no green house gases but have a lower total cost of ownership than hybrids.

**Does the production and large scale consumption of batteries cause environmental damage?**

Modern batteries for electric vehicles use lithium batteries, which are recyclable. The most recent electric vehicle announced, the Nissan Leaf, requires only 160 grams/kWh of lithium, which is relatively inexpensive and abundant. Recently the Obama Administration awarded Toxco, Inc. a \$9.5 million dollar grant to build an advanced battery recycling facility at its existing plant in Lancaster, Ohio, which already recycles large format lead acid, nickel metal hydride, and nickel cadmium batteries. The company's Canadian facility already recycles lithium batteries.

# NOTICE AND SCHEDULE OF O`AHU GROUP EXCOM ELECTIONS

Elections for the 3 expiring seats on the O`ahu Group Executive Committee are now open and will close on November 30.

The Nominating Committee's slate of 4 candidates (Willis Moore, Ry Meyers, Wayne Takamine, and Keith Rose) will have their brief statements posted on the O`ahu Group Web page at: <http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/oahu/>

The Election Committee will accept petitions, signed by 15 current O`ahu Group members, from any O`ahu Group member who wishes to be nominated, or nominate someone else, for an ExCom position: **deadline for receipt of petitions is October 15.**

Ballots will be mailed out to all eligible O`ahu Group members on or before October 30. Paper ballots, or on line-ballots must be cast on or before November 30.

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## Early Sierra Club Photographs

*by Sharon Kingdon Moran*

My late step father, Ed Freyer, was among the early participants in many large Sierra Club gatherings and hikes in Yosemite and the high Sierra. As I helped him sort his old memorabilia, he showed me photos of beautiful places he said were places which he could not name, but which he had visited. He knew Cedric Wright, and showed me a photograph of him which he said was taken by Ansel Adams, who was another of the many Sierra Club participants.

When I offered to give these not-well-identified prints to Annette for the recent Sierra Club auction, she suggested instead that I send them to the Sierra Club Library in San Francisco, which I did.

The is the letter I received: "Mahalo! And please thank Annett for suggesting that you send the photos to the Colby Library. The image of Cedric Wright is a familiar one--perhaps by Ansel Adams? One of the two distinctive mountain scenes is Whitney Ridge with the crest of Mt. Whitney in the left background. The other in Mr. Winchell in Kings Canyon National Park.

We will add the photos to the archives here at the Library.

Sincerely,

Becky Evans, Library Volunteer."

So, you just never know: maybe old unidentified photos can be recognized and shared more widely when they go to the right place! Sierra Club is truly a treasure-store, past, present, and future. Look through those old boxes and see if there are other pieces of history to move forward.

### We Need Your Help!

**Know of any skilled graphic artists or marketing experts? The Sierra Club is looking for volunteers to help the Club better communicate its message. Contact [robertharris@mac.com](mailto:robertharris@mac.com) for more information.**

# Queen Kapiolani Gardens Planting

Interested in native plants? Like making a difference? Come help the Sierra Club, Hawai'i Service Trip Program (HSTP), and the City and County of Honolulu create a demonstration native plant garden at Queen Kapiolani Gardens.

- \* **Where:** Queen Kapiolani Gardens (Near Kapiolani Park). Meet at Hau Arbor (near the parking lot off of Leahi Ave.).
- \* **Why:** Opportunity to create a demonstration native plant garden and recruit new volunteers for HSTP
- \* **When:** 9:00 am, Saturday, October 17, 2009
- \* **What to Bring:** Hat, sunglasses or safety goggles, sunscreen, and gloves (some will be available)
- \* **Questions?** Contact Janice Marsters at 808-371-8504



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# O`ahu Group Outings

## All Sierra Club Outings

Sierra Club Outings were started in 1901 by Club Founder John Muir. He was convinced that the best way to persuade people to fight to save valuable wild areas was to take them into the wilderness and let them experience for themselves the beauty that needs defending.

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 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. Pets (unless specifically allowed), and audio devices are not allowed. Smoking is only permitted at breaks away from other hikers and Outing Leaders may prohibit smoking if a fire hazard exists.

What to bring: A liter of water (2 liters for strenuous hikes), lunch, sunscreen, insect repellent, rain gear/jacket and day-pack. Boots, shoes with traction grooves, or tabs are required. (No flip flops or loafers, please.)

Waiver: All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the liability waiver before you choose to participate on an outing, go to <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/signinwaiver.PDF>

Car pooling: In the interest of facilitating logistics of some outings, participants may wish to make car pooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not assume liability for car pooling. Car pooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

## O`ahu Group Outings Information

Unless otherwise stated in the outing description, participants meet at 8:00 am at the back porch of the Church of the Cross roads, 2510 Bingham Street, Honolulu. Do not leave your car in the church parking lot.

### Saturday October 3

"Stuck in the Woods" Session 1 with Jim Yuen (E). For Leaders and Assistant Leaders only. The Sierra Club is currently recruiting new hike leaders. Session 1: The psychology of suddenly being in an unexpected emergency situation, the basic requirements of survival, the Ten Essentials system, clothing and insulation, emergency shelter. Location and time TBA. For info or registration, contact Deborah Blair 955-4168.

### Sunday, October 4

Beginner hike: Puu Pia (E/F)  
Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Wear closed-toe shoes with good traction. Bring at least one liter of water, a snack and raingear. Sunscreen, a hat and insect repellent recommended. 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

### Saturday, October 10

MCBH Kaneohe Bay Service Project  
1 mi/Moderate/Coast/Kaneohe (S/C)  
Reservations required by October 8. 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: Deborah Blair 955-4168

O`ahu Invasive Species Committee  
Service Project (S/C)

Ahuimanu Trail. What to bring: Take along more water than you think you will need--at least 2 quarts. Please bring gloves, sunhat, sunscreen, rain jacket, long pants, long sleeves, and sturdy walking shoes. Pack a hearty lunch and snacks because we will be working hard! In order to join the work trip, please RSVP by Thursday, October 8 to [oisc@hawaii.edu](mailto:oisc@hawaii.edu) or 286-4616.

### Sunday, October 11

Maunawili Falls from Pali Lookout  
7mi/Moderate/Maunawili (F)  
Enjoy three hikes in one on a trail constructed by the Sierra Club in the early 1990's. Enjoy beautiful views of the Koolau mountain range and the ocean. Lunch and swimming at a waterfall. Car shuttle required. Reservations suggested. Deborah Blair 955-4168, Stan Oka 429-9814; asst. Lydi Morgan

### Saturday, October 17

Ala Wai Boat Harbor Cleanup (S/C)  
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 SLIPPERS, closed toe shoes only. Deborah Blair 955-4168; asst. Lydi Morgan

### Sunday, October 18

Waimano Pool Late Hike - 3mi/  
Moderate/Valley/Pacific Palisades (E/F)  
1:00 meeting time. Hike up a ridge, then descend steeply to a waterfall and swimming pool on Waimano Stream. The hike includes some steep parts and scrambles over logs and rocks. Ed Mersino 223-5765, Jean Fujikawa 203-8508

### Saturday, October 24

Make a Difference Day: Help Recreate a Native Dry Forest with Ka`ala Farm (S/C)  
The Ka`ala Kipuka is Ka`ala Farm's attempt to recreate a native dry forest easily accessible to people on O`ahu. Help remove alien plants and plant native trees with us. After the work, there will be a mini-tour of our Cultural Learning Center at Ka`ala during which you'll learn about the Center and Ka`ala Farm's other projects and programs. Please meet us at 8:30 AM in the Center's parking area. Call 696-4954 or email [kaalafarm@gmail.com](mailto:kaalafarm@gmail.com) for directions. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528

### Sunday, October 25

Puu Ma`eli`eli  
3 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Kahaluu (F)  
Reservations required. Uphill hike to pillbox overlooking beautiful Kaneohe Bay. Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092

### Saturday, October 31

Moss/Fern Hike (C/E)  
2 mi/Easy/Contour/Tantalus  
Take a leisurely hike on the Manoa Cliff Trail and learn about ferns and mosses. Mashuri Waite, who has planted a garden of rare natives on the trail, will be our guide. Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

### Sunday, November 1

Kapalama Loop  
6mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Alewa Hts. (E/F)  
This up and down ridge trail leads to great views. Along the trail there are a number of native plants and opportunities to spot native birds. Ed Mersino 223-5765, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092

### Saturday November 7

# O`ahu Group Outings

"Stuck in the Woods" Session 2 with Jim Yuen (E)

For Leaders and Assistant Leaders only. The Sierra Club is currently recruiting new hike leaders. Session 2: Playing with fire -- the physics of fire, tinder and fuel. Various expedient fire-starting methods. Practical fire building. Location and time TBA. For info or registration, contact Deborah Blair 955-4168.

## Sunday, November 8

Kamiloiki

6mi/Moderate/Ridge/Hawaii Kai (E/F)  
This dry ridge trail begins at a heiau and leads us to an ironwood grove at the summit. Mel Yoshioka 587-0879, Randy Ching 942-0145; asst. Richard Bailey

## Saturday, November 14

O`ahu Invasive Species Committee Service Project (S/C) Manuka Waiiau Trail. This trip requires a moderate 40-60 minute hike to reach the work site. Some off trail work will be required. What to bring: Take along more water than you think you will need--at least 2 quarts. Please bring gloves, sunhat, sunscreen, rain jacket, long pants, long sleeves, and sturdy walking shoes. Pack a hearty lunch and snacks because we will be working hard! In order to join the work trip, please RSVP by Thursday, November 12 to [oiscc@hawaii.edu](mailto:oiscc@hawaii.edu) or 286-4616.

## Sunday, November 15

Beginner hike: Puu Ohia (E/F)  
Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Wear closed-toe shoes with good traction. Bring at least one liter of water, a snack and raingear. Sunscreen, a hat and insect repellent recommended. 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. Leader: Randy Ching 942-0145, Sherine Boomla 527-8034

## Sunday, November 22

Waahila Ridge  
4mi/Moderate/Ridge/Honolulu (F)  
What better way to spend a day than on this lovely trail, with its views of Manoa Valley and the Koolau mountains?  
Deborah Blair 955-4168, asst. Roxanne Villanueva

## Sunday, November 29

Diamond Head Snorkel Outing (E)  
Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 8:00 a.m. All participants must be able to swim. Explore and learn about Hawaii's sea creatures. We'll snorkel and learn about some common coral, algae, fish, and invertebrates at the Diamond Head/Black Point area. Minors must be accompanied by a parent or their legal guardian. Bring your swimsuit, snorkel, mask, fins, water, and snack. Sherine Boomla [bsherine@yahoo.com](mailto:bsherine@yahoo.com) or 527-8034

Aiea Ridge (partial)  
5mi/Moderate/Ridge/Aiea (E/F)  
Wet ridge trail, part off the Aiea Loop Trail with many native plants. Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092

## Saturday December 5

"Stuck in the Woods" Session 3 with Jim Yuen (E).  
For Leaders and Assistant Leaders only. The Sierra Club is currently recruiting new hike leaders. Session 3: Where am I? -- using map and compass, both alone and together, navigation, UTM System. Also use of signaling devices, mirrors, whistles, etc. Location and Time TBA. For info or registration contact Deborah Blair 955-4168

## Sunday, December 6

Kuliouou  
4 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Kuliouou (F)  
Enjoy great views of Waimanalo from the Koolau Ridge after you've made the final steep ascent. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528, Bob Butchart 235-0582

Sandy Beach Cleanup  
1 mi/Easy/Shoreline/East Oahu (S/C)  
Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Sandy Beach bathroom at eastern side of beach park. Cleanup along highway and coastal areas until 10:30. Call Fred (394-2898) for information. Bring water, hat and sunscreen. 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 toes shoes only. NO SLIPPERS. Deborah Blair 955-4168

## Saturday, December 12

MCBH Kaneohe Bay Service Project  
1 mi/Moderate/Coast/Kaneohe (S/C)

Reservations required by December 10. 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: Deborah Blair 955-4168

O`ahu Invasive Species Committee Service Project (S/C) Mauumae Trail. This trip requires a 60-90 minute hike that is mostly uphill and along a ridge making it a more strenuous hike. Participants will be required to do off trail hiking on steep slopes in order to find the target plants. What to bring: Take along more water than you think you will need--at least 2 quarts. Please bring gloves, sunhat, sunscreen, rain jacket, long pants, long sleeves, and sturdy walking shoes. No slippers allowed. Pack a hearty lunch and snacks because we will be working hard! In order to join the work trip, please RSVP by Thursday, December 10 to [oiscc@hawaii.edu](mailto:oiscc@hawaii.edu) or 286-4616.

## Sunday, December 13

Beginner hike: Aiea Loop (E/F)  
Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Wear closed-toe shoes with good traction. Bring at least one liter of water, a snack and raingear. Sunscreen, a hat and insect repellent recommended. 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. Leader: Randy Ching 942-0145, asst. Roxanne Villanueva

## Sunday, December 20

Kahuku Coastal Walk  
4 mi/Moderate/Coast/Kahuku (F)  
Explore the longest undeveloped coastline on Oahu. Bring \$2.25 for bus fare. Sherine Boomla 527-8034, Bob Butchart 235-0582

## Sunday, December 27 (F)

Downtown Full Moon Walk  
Meet at 6:30 PM on the front steps of the YWCA at 1040 Richards Street, across from Iolani Palace. Bask in the full moon as we stroll around downtown Honolulu enjoying the local Christmas decorations. Annette Kaohelaulii 235-5431, Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

**Key: D=distance, the estimated round trip for the day. Classification of hikes: (E) Education/Interpretation; (C) Conservation; (F) Family/Fun; (S) Service**

# Kaua`i Group Report

By Judy Dalton

## 7th Annual Picnic at Maha`ulepu, October 18.

Please come with your friends and family to our annual get-together Sunday, October 18 from 10am to 2pm. This year we'll be at magnificent Maha`ulepu. Meet other Sierra Club members, walk along the dazzling coastline, take a guided cave tour, dip into the clear ocean water, and relax on the beach.

We'll present Sierra Club awards to individuals who have made exceptional contributions to protecting the environment at 11:30am and feast on a potluck lunch at noon. Please bring your favorite item for the potluck. Earth-friendly vegetarian dishes are especially welcomed. Beverages will be provided by the Sierra Club. Bring your beach chairs or mats.

Directions to Kawailoa Bay at Maha`ulepu: Follow Po`ipu Road past the Grand Hyatt where it becomes a dirt road. Drive to T-intersection and turn right. Continue past the entry gate to a parking area. Park and walk out to the beach and turn left to find Kawailoa Bay. Look for the Sierra Club banner.

For the Makauwahi Cave/Sinkhole tour: From the parking area at Maha`ulepu, walk to the right along the beach past Gillan's house, crossing the stream and following the path to marker 15 which is at the cave entry. The tour begins at 10am and is free. The beautiful new 2010 Sierra Club calendars will be available for purchase at the picnic. Please call Judy Dalton at 246-9067 if you have any questions. **WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

## Kaua`i Loses a Great Environmentalist and Friend.

Loke Pereira, dedicated until the end of her life to protecting beaches and public access, just 2 weeks before her passing, met with the mayor along with members of the Kaua`i Group executive committee, requesting that Wailua Beach be preserved intact, free of the Bike Path the county plans to build on the beach. Loke first teamed up with the Sierra Club in 2003 when she courageously led the movement for public access to Papa`a Bay. As a Native Hawaiian she could arrange for her own entry, but she wanted everyone to have the right to get to the beach. In recognition of her commitment to working tirelessly for public access rights she was presented with Sierra

Club's first Pono Award in 2004. While serving as an elected member of our executive committee she expanded her efforts to opening an ancient Hawaiian trail at Moloa`a Bay. It was fitting that Loke and her husband Charlie were honored as Living Treasures of Kaua`i for environmental and cultural achievements. Loke was indeed a treasure and she will be greatly missed.

## Wailua Beach

**Proposed Bike Path.** The Kaua`i Group supports the concept of a bicycle path along east side of Kaua`i. However, we feel that placing a 14 foot wide Trex boardwalk on Wailua Beach and making it a high transit corridor, is inappropriate. We believe it is of paramount importance to respect Native Hawaiian rights, including protection of sacred burial sites, and other sites of cultural, historical and archeological significance. The process of inventorying cultural impacts at Wailua Beach was clearly inadequate in the Environmental Assessment. In fact, an archaeological inventory survey and cultural assessment for Wailua Beach were completely omitted.

Further, we question the process through which the decision was made between the three alternate routes described in the Draft EA for the Lydgate Park - Kapa`a Bike/Pedestrian Path. Clearly, the overwhelmingly negative reaction at the December 4, 2008 meeting to the decision to build upon the sand and dunes of Wailua Beach, supports that concern.

Wailua Beach provides a resting place for endangered Hawaiian monk seals and for threatened sea turtles to come ashore. A heavily-used bike path would expose both to greatly increased activity and disturbances. A boardwalk constructed on the sand and dunes would create the potential for negative

environmental impacts, compromising the integrity of the beach and interfering with the beach's natural process.

We are supportive of Hui Nā Makaiwa O Wailuanuiaho`ano practitioners, who feel a boardwalk on Wailua Beach would be a desecration to an area with the greatest



Loke Pereira (on right) upon presenting Caren Diamond with a lei for her second "Environmentalist of the Year" award from the Kaua`i Group. Loke, a few years earlier, received our first "Pono Award" for her courageous commitment to public rights access.

spiritual, historical and cultural significance on Kaua`i. This historical treasure is acknowledged by the federal government's inclusion in two National Historic Registry sites. Using an alternative route identified in the Environmental Assessment along the already paved canal roadway behind Coco Palms would substantially address the concerns of the Native Hawaiian community. One cultural practitioner lamented, "There is no reason why a project intended to provide pleasure and happiness to the people of our area should be implemented in a way that does injury to our history, o urc ulturea ndo urs pirit".

Want to have your voice heard at upcoming public meetings on this issue? Please email: [dalton@aloha.net](mailto:dalton@aloha.net)

## Volunteers Needed October 24 for Blue Line Chalking Event to Indicate Future Sea Levels.

Help draw blue chalk lines to indicate where sea levels will be on Kaua`i with a 3 foot rise in sea level due to climate change, as part of the international "350.org" world-wide effort on October 24. Please call the Kaua`i coordinator Caren Diamond at 826-5150.



# Kaua`i Group Outings

## Kaua`i Group Outings Information

See Page 14 for Outings Information

Mileage is round trip unless otherwise indicated. Requested donation for members and participants under 18: \$1. Donation for others: \$5. For more information check our website: [www.hi.sierrclub.org/kauai](http://www.hi.sierrclub.org/kauai)

**Fri. Oct. 2** - Sunset to Full Moon walk. Wailua to Nukoli'i Beach. Socialize & Exercise. East Shore/Easy 3.5 miles. (C/E/F) Picnic at Lydgate Beach Park & walk on miles of undeveloped coastline. Opportunity for moonlight swim at Lydgate. Judy Dalton 246-9067

**Sat. Oct. 3** - Jewel of Koke'e, Strenuous/7 miles. (E/F) Spectacular hike through the forest of Koke'e, Black Pipe Trail, Canyon Trail, Po'omau Canyon Lookout. Cross over Waipo'o Falls for a view of Waimea Canyon to the ocean. Neil Brosnahan 346-8460

**Sun. Oct. 4** - Ili'ili'ula /Strenuous/ East side/7.5 miles. (E/F) An all day hike that follows the North Wailua ditch system trail to the upcountry weir on the Ili'ili'ula stream. Boreas Van Nouhuys 639-3009

**Mon Oct 5** - Nonou (Sleeping Giant) Conservation Service Project. (C/S) 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.

**Sat Oct 10** - Kanaele Bog/ Southside/ Strenuous/ 6 miles. (C/E) A rare chance to visit Hawaii's only low elevation bog and learn about Nature Conservancy's work to protect this unique area. Advanced sign-up required for waivers. Limited to 8 participants. Kathy Valier 826-7302

**Sun. Oct. 11** - Moloa'a Beach Hike and

Clean up. East-North shore/moderately easy/ 2 miles. (C/S) We'll climb up the hill of an ancient trail, then walk the beautiful bay and pick up floatsam. Karen Tilley 821-8008

**Sun. Oct. 18 Sierra Club 7th Annual Picnic at Maha'ulepu.** 10 am - 2pm. Environmental awards presented at 11:30am followed by a potluck picnic at 12noon. See the Kaua'i Group Report for more details (left page).

**Sat. Oct. 24** (C/E/S) Blue Line Chalking event. Help draw blue chalk to indicate

where sea levels will be with a 3 foot rise in sea level due to climate change. Contact Caren Diamond 826-5150 for more info.

**Sun. Oct. 25** - (C/F) Waipo'o Falls/ Koke'e/ Moderately strenuous/ 3 miles. Incredible canyon views not visible from the roadside overlooks. Picnic by a pool at the base of Ginger Pool. Allan Rachap 742-1001

**Thurs. Oct 29** - National Tropical Botanical Gardens Full Moon Walk. (S/C/E) South Side/Moderate/2 miles. Hike and learn about propagation of native plants in lovely gardens, plus volunteer service. Sierra Club members only. Call Bob Nishek 346-0476.

**Fri. Oct. 30** - Maha'ulepu Sunset to Moonlight walk. South Shore/Moderate 4 miles. (C/E/F) Coastal hike starts at Shipwreck Beach & ends with almost moon glistening on the ocean along the spectacular shores of Maha'ulepu. Car shuttle for one way hike. Judy Dalton 246-9067

**Sun. Nov. 1** - Hanalei Bay Full Moon Walk/ North shore/easy/ 3 miles. (C/F) We'll stroll the wide sands of Hanalei Bay from Black Pot to Waioli stream & return under the light of a full harvest moon. Jane Schmitt 826-6105

**Tues. Nov. 3** - Waimea Canyon Road Clean Up/Easy/ 2 miles.(S) Afternoon clean up of Sierra Club's adopted highway requires a little over an hour. Please help keep the gateway to Waimea Canyon litter-free. Please call Bob Nishek at 346-0476.

**Sat. Nov 7** - Space Rock North Shore/ Very strenuous/ 7 Miles. (C/F) Postcard views along the first leg of the Na Pali Coast Trail past Hanakapi'ai to the highest point on the Kalalu Trail. Boreas Van Nouhuys 639-3009.

**Sun. Nov. 8** - Nu'alolo / Koke'e/ Very strenuous/ 8 miles. (C/F) Stunning views of the Nu'alolo valley & NaPali coast; a very intense hike with over 2,000 ft. elevation change. Jane Schmitt 826-6105

**Sat. Nov. 14** Anini Beach walk and Clean Up/ Easy/North shore/1 mile (S/F) Walk along the beautiful beach, and clean up as we go. Possible swim at end. Karen Tilley 821-8008

**Sat. Nov. 21** - Hanalei Tunnel/East Side/ Strenuous/6.5miles/ (C/F) An adventure

from Wailua area through a mile-long tunnel to the upper reaches of Hanalei River. The trail is sometimes muddy, being close to Wai'ale'ale, but the experience is worth it. Neil Brosnahan 346-8460

**Sun. Nov. 22** - Maha'ulepu/South Shore/ Moderate/3 Miles. (C/E/F) Spectacular coastal walk with stunning views each step of the way! This magnificent coastline is unique with its fascinating craggy rock formations. Allan Rachap 742-1001

**Sun. Nov. 29** Ha'ena to Ke'e Sunset to Moonlight walk/Northshore Easy/ 2.5 miles roundtrip/ (C/F) Enjoy stunning views of the mountains on a beach stroll to Ke'e Beach to watch the sunset along Na Pali and return by the light of the moon. Kathy Valier 826-7302.

**Mon. Nov. 30** National Tropical Botanical Gardens Full Moon on Walk. (S/C/E) South Side/Moderate/2 miles. Learn about propagation of native plants in lovely gardens, plus volunteer service. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 346-0476

**Sun. Dec. 6** Okolehao/Northshore/ Strenuous/4 miles. (C/F) An afternoon/evening hike up a trail that climbs 1200 feet along a ridge Behind Hanalei. Enjoy beautiful, sweeping views of Hanalei Bay and the North Shore. Kathy Valier 826-7302

**Sat. Dec. 12** - North fork Wailua River East Side/ Very Strenuous /4 mi. mostly through river and some trail. (C/F) Wet, muddy and wonderful. Tabi footwear and hiking stick needed. Great pool and waterfall. Advanced hikers only please. Neil Brosnahan 346-8460

**Sun, Dec. 20** - Nonou (Sleeping Giant) East Side/5 miles/moderately strenuous. (C/S) Hike to the top on one trail and return on another to see it all. Incredible sweeping views & lush vegetation. Allan Rachap 742-1001

**Sat. Dec. 26** - Donkey Beach hike. East side/4 miles/moderately easy. (E/F) Hike the beautiful and rugged, currently undeveloped coast. Karen Tilley 821-8008

**Tues. Dec. 29** Nonou (Sleeping Giant) Conservation Service Project. (C/S) 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.

**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**

# Maui Group Report

## IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR MAUI GROUP MEMBERS

1. To save money, we are no longer mailing the Sierra Club, Maui Group newsletter. We will still prepare the Maui Group newsletter as always and post it on our website for all to read. Please go to our website at [www.mauisierraclub.org](http://www.mauisierraclub.org) and click on:

- a. "Newsletters" to get the latest newsletter.
- b. "Hikes and Activities" to get the latest Hikes and Activities with all updates.
- c. "Join Our Email List" to receive action alerts regarding environmental issues and how you can help. We will also send you an action alert when the latest newsletter has been posted to the website. This email action alert system is for members and non-members. So everyone, please feel free to sign up. Also, when you receive an action alert, please feel free to forward it to your friends. We are trying to reach as many people as possible.

2. The Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter also has an email Action Alert for members and non-members to sign up for statewide environmental issues. Please go to [www.hi.sierraclub.org](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org) and click on "Action Alerts" to sign up. If you are a member, please also sign up for "Email My Newsletter."

## GROUP ACTIVITIES

By Kathy McDuff

As you may have noticed, Maui Group has moved its offices from Paia to Kahului. Mahalo to our longtime landlords Ralph and Loretta Ikeda and to our new landlords Peake and Lavoy and to the Akaku staff at our new office upstairs at the Akaku building at 333 Dairy Road, Kahului. We will have our blessing ceremony conducted by Lei'ohu Ryder on Sunday September 13, 2009 at 3:00 pm. Please bring a pot luck dish and join us for the fun and talk story. The time will be noted on our website closer to the event. Drop by and see our great archives covering Sierra Club Maui Group's 33 year history.

Mahalo also to Harriet Witt, noted Maui astronomer, for our phenomenal star watch fundraiser on the beach at Makena on August 14. Thanks also to Linda McDonald for helping us out at the event by volunteering her house for our meeting point.

## UPDATES ON MAUI CONSERVATION ISSUES

**North Shore Heritage Park & Ho'okipa Expansion:** Northshore's two popular beach parks were crowded this summer and both need room to expand. A&B proposed 200 additional housing units along Hana Hwy, from Kuau Bayview to Holomua Road in the updated Maui Island Plan (MIP). Maui Planning Commission members, going against the recommendations of County Planning staff and the citizen GPAC, included this land in the Maui Island Plan Urban Growth Boundary. Planning Commission review of Maui's Urban Growth Boundaries ends on Sept 29. In 2010 Maui County Council will make the final land use decisions that shape our future until 2030. Email comments to: [generalplan2030@co.mauai.hi.us](mailto:generalplan2030@co.mauai.hi.us) or call 270-7214. See Maui Group website for more details.

**East Maui Streams:** Maui Group Members continue to provide information to the state water commission supporting implementation of the 2001 citizen petition for increased flows in 28 East Maui streams. Public hearings will be held later this year and dates will be posted on the MG website.

**'Iao & Waihe'e Stream Restoration:** Water Commission hearing officer Miike recommended returning 50% of the average 60 mgd diverted Na Wai Eha stream waters. Final decision on the matter is expected by the water commission in late 2009. Citizens call the proposal to build a joint A&B county treatment plant to use 9 mgd of Iao stream water "premature," pending the commission's final decision on stream flow

levels. A&B recently reported that they will be using well water from Central Maui for their new Kahului Business Park, not stream water from a future Waiale plant.

**Hamakuapoko Wells:** MG members went to court in 1993 to keep these wells from public use, due to ag chemical contamination. More recently policymakers decided to not use the wells due to their low yield and high costs of treating for ag chemicals and nitrates. A proposed ordinance by Council Water committee chair Victorino would allow the wells to be pumped during drought emergencies for upcountry water supplies. MG supports careful analysis of costs, risks, and benefits of this and any prospective new water source before they are brought into the County water system.

**Sustainable Ag: GMO TARO BAN:** MG supported a Council Bill banning GMO taro in Maui County. Bill has advanced to full Council for review.

**Caged Shark Tour Ban:** Maui Group supported a bill that passed the County Council, offering testimony that feeding sharks for entertainment is offensive to Native Hawaiians and dangerous to the ecosystem because it could change sharks' natural behavior.

**Fish Farm Education:** MG Conservation Chair Rob Parsons has been educating people about the unsustainable side of the fish farms proposed for the Big Island's Kona coast.

**Wastewater Injection Wells:** MG is part of the Island-wide DIRE (Don't Inject, Re-Direct) coalition that invited EPA officials to hear from the public about Lahaina Wastewater Treatment Plant's Injection well permits. MG testimony urged a shorter permit span with clear benchmarks to phase out the wells which studies have shown impact to ocean water quality and reef health. Mayor Tavares announced support for a phase out of wells and DIRE will be part of the task force developing a plan.

**Sustainable Energy:** Before the Public Utilities Commission, one of the most exciting ideas is the European system of "Feed in Tariffs." In simple terms, utilities are required to purchase home generated power at market rates, giving many homes and businesses incentives to produce clean, homegrown power. For more information on new energy policies please go to [www.hi.sierraclub.org](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org).

**Superferry Update:** The Superferry bankruptcy proceedings continue. New revelations have appeared which link the push to build a high speed Superferry type vessel as a prototype for future military contracts.

**Haleakala Solar Telescope (ATST):** Local cultural practitioners found that the Final EIS for telescope project did not address their comments or concerns. For next steps, go to [www.kilakilahaleakala.org](http://www.kilakilahaleakala.org).

**Honolua Bay Development:** No news on protection plans for the Bay, Lipoa Point and surrounding valleys. County Planners support conservation designation for lands of Lipoa Point, Honolua Bay and Valley. Updates: [www.savehonolua.org](http://www.savehonolua.org).

**Wailea 670:** Sierra Club Maui continues to track the EIS process to press for preservation for the whole southern 200 acres of Wailea 670 due to the extraordinary amount of native plants still surviving there.

**Makena Resort Rezoning:** Makena Resort recently announced that its lenders had foreclosed on outstanding loans. Just who the future owners will be and what their plans will be is still unclear. Maui Group supports a master plan for the resort lands which sets aside lands surrounding Pu'u Ola'i and Makena State Park and other lands of high biological and cultural value.

# Maui Group Outings

## Maui Group Outings Information

See Page 14 for All Outings Information

A donation of \$5 (\$3 for Sierra Club members) is requested of hikers over age 14. Pre-registration is required for some hikes. Call the hike leader number shown below. Also, please check our web site, [www.mauisierraclub.org](http://www.mauisierraclub.org), and click on Hikes and Activities for additional hikes and outings and/or changes which we have added after this newsletter was published. Mahalo!

**Sunday, October 4:** Explore Maui's North Shore. Swim in the Olivine pools, walk the Ohai Loop Trail at Papanalohoa Point near Kahakuloa and visit the Nakalele Blowhole. The Ohai Loop Trail features native plants, including the endangered Ohai along with the more common nehe, ulei, akoko and aalii, plus native seabirds, turtles and whales in season. Bring swimsuit, camera and lunch. Meet 8:30 am Waihe'e School parking lot to carpool. Limit 18. Please call hike leader Bob Babson at 874-1166 to register. (E) D = 5 miles.

**Sunday, October 18:** Kanaio Stupa Tibetan Monastery - Hike across the slopes of Haleakala to this beautiful shrine built in 1982. Meet 9:00 am across from Grandma's Coffee House in Keokea to carpool. Bring lunch and also bring rain gear just in case. Limit 18. Please call hike leader Mitch Skaggerberg at 875-4970 to register. (E) D = 3 miles with some steep grades.

**Saturday October 24:** Blue Line project for climate change awareness. Worldwide rallies will be held to raise awareness of climate change and to establish a goal of 350 parts per million of CO2 in preparation for the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen December 7-18, 2009. This 350 ppm number is a tangible and appropriate goal that our leaders need to have in mind going into the Conference. To illustrate effects of climate change and sea level rise, community groups will gather across the state on the 24th to create a "Blue Line" to illustrate where sea levels would rise with just a 1 meter increase. For more information, contact Lance Holter at 579-9442.

**Monday, October 26:** Pilale Bay historical hike. Peaceful, scenic, historically significant bay overlooked by Halehaku Heiau. Meet 9:30 am at Haiku Community Center to carpool to site. Very limited parking. Bring picnic lunch/snack & foot wear suitable for muddy jungle trails and stream crossings. Ocean swim possible if weather cooperates. Leader: Lucienne de Naie. Limit: 15. Call 572-8331 or email [laluz@maui.net](mailto:laluz@maui.net) to register. (C) (E) D = 2 miles, w/ some steep slopes.

**Sunday, November 1:** Hike to the Pauwela Point Lighthouse. Meet at 8:30 am at the Haiku Community Center. We will walk from here. It is directly north through the pineapple fields. See where the lighthouse once stood and then walk down to sea level

and swim in the "Birthing Pools" where we will have lunch. Bring your bathing suit, lunch and water. Limit 18. Please call hike leader Bob Babson at 874-1166 to register. (C) (E) D = 3 miles.

**Tuesday, November 10:** Visit beautiful Kahanu National Botanical Garden in Hana and see the largest heiau in Hawaii. \$10/person entrance fee. This hike is very educational because all plants are named. We will also visit the Hana Cultural Center and see a reproduction of an ancient village and old jail house and visit Hana Bay. Meet 8:30 am at the Haiku Community Center and carpool to Hana. Bring lunch and camera. Limit 18. Please call Bob Babson at 874-1166 to register. (C) (E) D = 2 miles.

**Sunday, November 15:** Makena Historical Tour. Learn about the heiau, fishponds, and ancient villages surrounding Makena State Park and Pu/u Ola'i and get updates on the state Park Master Plan process. Meet @ 8:30 am 2nd parking lot (to south) of Makena State Beach. Wear good shoes for varied terrain and bring water and lunch or snacks. Leader: Lucienne de Naie. Limit: 15. Call 572-8331 or email [laluz@maui.net](mailto:laluz@maui.net) to register. (C) (E) D = 2.5 miles, mostly level, some rocky.

**Saturday, November 28:** 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 five 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. Please call hike leader Mitch Skaggerberg at 875-4970 to register. (E) D = 5 miles.

**Sunday, December 13:** Hike spectacular Kapalua Resort Coastal Trail and snorkel at Kapalua Bay: Meet 8:30 am in front of Buzz's Wharf in Maalaea to carpool. If you live in the Lahaina area, meet 9:30 am at D. T. Fleming Beach Park which is where the trail starts. Bring bathing suit, lunch, hat and camera. Limit 18. Please call hike leader Bob Babson at 874-1166 to register. (C) (E) D = 3.5 miles mostly level.

**Saturday, December 26:** From La Perouse Bay, hike south on the Kings Highway to 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 have lunch and swim on a beautiful sandy beach. Bring swimsuit, lunch, water, hat and sunscreen. All day hike. Meet at Kihei Community Center (Lipoa Street & Piilani Highway) at 8:30 am to carpool. Limit 18. Please call Bob Babson at 874-1166 to register. (C) (E) D = 6 miles mostly level.

We need more energetic, fun hike leaders. To be a hike leader, you need to read a short book published by the Sierra Club on hiking, be certified in CPR and First Aid. Please call Bob Babson at 874-1166 for more information.

**Key: D=distance, the estimated round trip for the day. Classification of hikes: (E) Education/Interpretation; (C) Conservation; (F) Family/Fun; (S) Service**

# Moku Loa Group Report

## CHAIR REPORT

BY ROBERTA BRASHEAR-KAULFERS

Garage Sale Team: Rose Acevedo, Nelson Ho, Phil Barnes, Roberta-Brashear-Kaulfers, Justin Avery, Diane Ware, Cory Hardin and Global Hope volunteers. Mahalo to everyone who helped set up, donated items, priced miscellaneous stuff, worked most of Friday and all day Saturday – and then hauled away the excess. BIG MAHALO!!! Garage sale made \$526.00 for Moku Loa Group! Thank you Justin and your Mom, Mrs. (Dr.) Avery for the use of your home and front lawn. It is a great location in Hilo; and we had lots of shoppers come by and BUY!

Earth Day Fair mahalo correction: I inadvertently forgot to include the names of Moku Loa Group volunteers who participated in both the Waimea and Kona Earth Day Fairs last April. Mahalo to Paul Campbell, Duane and Marjorie Erway, Debbie Hecht, Janice Palma Glennie and Justin Avery

Sierra Club calendars are for sale. The 2010 Wilderness and Engagement Calendars will be arriving soon. To place an order, contact Roberta @ [brashear@hawaii.edu](mailto:brashear@hawaii.edu) or 966-7002.

Call for Candidates of Moku Loa Group Excom 2010. It's still not too late to step up. If you are interested in running for the Group Excom, please submit a short bio (less than 70 words) by November 1, 2009 to: [edith\\_wo@yahoo.com](mailto:edith_wo@yahoo.com)

## KOHALA FISH FARM by Cory Harden

Nine out of every ten pounds of harvested fish from the fish farm planned off North Kohala will be shipped out of Hawai'i. Two pounds of feed will be shipped in for each pound of fish produced. Twenty-plus jobs, 1,200,000 pounds of fish a year, and returns for investors are what Hawai'i will gain. What will we risk?

Twelve cages, each 30 yards across, will float untethered 1300 feet deep, dependent on new propulsion technology to hold them against currents, storms & tsunamis. No bond will be posted in case of disaster.

Disease from farm fish, caged off from culling by predators, may cause epidemics in wild fish. Drugs and antibiotics may not help, since residues may linger in the fish, and spread

into the ocean from fish droppings. Vaccines take years to develop.

Public ocean waters (250 acres) will be used for private profit. More are coming – Hawai'i is the only state that allows ocean leasing. Two existing fish farms plan expansion. Three more may start up.

"[T]here are still unresolved issues regarding the level of environmental and project disclosure and analysis regarding the engineering design of the proposed engine, fish feed components, lack of benthic studies in the project area, and the lack of shark, marine mammal and endangered species plans," says the Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands.

We urge that upcoming hearings for a Conservation District Use Permit be held in West Hawai'i and be well-publicized. We urge that the State address all risks and "incorporate ecological perspectives," like the Hawaiian fish pond, to "integrate fishing, aquaculture and conservation."

## KEEP 'IO ON THE ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST by Diane Ware

Moku Loa Group has recently asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to keep the 'io on the Endangered Species List (ESL) and to change their focus from 'individual species' to 'protecting shared habitats.' This approach will not only bring greater protection to all endangered and threatened species, but will also protect Hawaiian forest ecosystems. The Hawai'i Island County Council is close to approving a resolution to also ask USFWS to keep the 'io on the ESL due to its cultural significance and development pressures to remove forest ecosystems for agriculture and residential use. "A federal report released March 19, 2009 highlighted the perilous state of Hawai'i's avian population, noting nearly all native bird species are in danger of becoming extinct." (Associated Press) "More bird species are vulnerable to extinction in Hawai'i than anywhere else in the country, yet in most cases critical habitat has not been identified due in part to Hawai'i's small share of federal funds for Endangered Species ... only 4% of the Bush administration's spending on Endangered Species recovery went to Hawai'i birds." (Daren Schroeder, Director, American Bird Conservancy)

Rather than de-list the 'io at this time, the Sierra Club Moku Loa Group urges USFWS to adopt the new "holistic" approach proposed by former Interior Secretary, Dirk Kempthorne, at an island health conference in Honolulu in October 2008. This "ecosystem" based approach addresses the common threats

that occur across these ecosystems so we can more effectively focus our conservation efforts on restoring the functions of shared habitats. This approach will be particularly valuable if it is found that the native bee population, which pollinates native plants is endangered; as petitioned recently by the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

Natural and man-made threats may not be significant singly; but if several occur concurrently along with continuing degradation/loss of habitat, the impact could be devastating due to the fact that the 'io's current range is still one island. Another important factor is the 'io's relatively low reproductive potential. The birds are monogamous, produce only one egg per nest; and according to Stone and Pratt (Hawai'i's Plants and Animals) "Not all individuals nest every year ... young birds remain in the nest for two months ... adults feed the young five to eight months. A species that has such a low reproductive potential and comparatively low total number (2,500) can quickly decline." Although data now indicate there are 3,000 'io, the recent example of the palila demise makes it clear that populations can change quickly.

## UPCOMING MOKU LOA GROUP PROGRAMS by Phil Barnes

**Midway Island Slideshow.** Come hear a talk about wildlife on Midway Atoll by artist and educator Sunny Seal-LaPlante. As a Papahānaumokuākea 'Āhahui Alaka'i participant, she traveled there this summer and learned a great deal about the seabirds and other endangered animals that make their home in one of the newest National Monuments. Learn more about this remote Wildlife Refuge and see photos of a variety of seabirds that call this atoll home -- including Laysan albatross, white terns and red-tailed tropic birds. Find out one thing you can do to help the refuge, what is being done there and see a real bolus. The talk will be at Kea'au Community Center behind the police station on Tuesday, October 13 at 7:00 pm. For further information call Sunny at 964-5017.

**Scenic National Parks of the Northwest.** Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers will give a slide PowerPoint presentation of her recent trip to some of our most scenic Western National Parks. She visited Yosemite National Park, Crater Lake National Park and Mt. Hood. Come on out and share the experience. The show will take place at Kea'au Community Center on Tuesday,

# Moku Loa Outings

November 10 at 7:00 pm. To get further information call Roberta at 966-7002.

**Annual Membership Meeting.** We will again be holding our annual membership meeting in Wailoa State Park, Pavilion #1. This is the same pavilion at the entrance to the park where we usually hold this meeting. Just look for our Sierra Club banner. Our meeting will be held on Friday, December 11th at 6:00 pm. As usual, this will be a potluck dinner, so bring your favorite dish or pupu. Please bring your own place settings to cut down on waste. We will be selling Sierra Club merchandise, including calendars, to help you with your holiday shopping. A presentation will be made by Hawai'i Chapter Director Robert Harris on recent Club activities and initiatives. For further information call Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers at 966-7002.

## Moku Loa Group Outings Information

### See Page 14 for All Outings Information

Donation for non-members is \$3.00. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

**September – date to be arranged** – Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park Service (E)(C)(S) Help a grove of wiliwili trees survive the gall wasp by collecting seeds and possibly removing wasps. Date will be arranged to coincide with seeding of the trees. We will stay overnight at Ka'aha shelter for – probably a Saturday in September. Phone Leader Diane Ware for details (967-8642).

**Saturday-Sunday, September 12-13** – Hakalau National Fish & Wildlife Service Project (S)(E)(C) D = 3 miles, E = 5500' +/- 500' The group will help the US Fish and Wildlife Service in one of their conservation projects. After working, we will be rewarded with an opportunity to bird watch and botanize. Travel by 4x4 from Saddle Road. Prepare for wet and chilly weather. Bring boots, rain gear, sun protection, warm clothes, gloves, binoculars, sleeping bag and daypack. Reservations required and group size is limited. Fee for central commissary. Contact

Leaders Sunny and Michael LaPlante (964-5017).

**Saturday, September 19** - Kaloli Service Trip (S)(E) D = 4 miles, E = sea level

Hike and clear brush and debris on this historic Old Government Trail in Puna, from Paradise Park part way to the Shipman Beach (Haena) area. This is part of an ongoing project with Puna Trails. Bring water, mosquito repellent, sun screen, lunch and hand tools for clearing brush. Contact Leader Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers (966-7002); Assistant Leader Marcie Ugoc (721-1364).

**Saturday-Sunday, September 26-27** –

Manuka Natural Area Reserve Service Trip (S) D = 6 miles, E = 1800' +/- 600'

The Manuka Natural Area Reserve, a dry land forest in the Ka'u district, is in need of our labor, energy and support. We will do weed control in the mauka Olopuia kipuka. We will destroy lantana in a predominately lama forest. DLNR has a cabin nearby with amenities to make our overnight stay comfortable and fun. Fee for central commissary. Reservations required. Leader Rose Acevedo (756-5990); Assistant Leader, Phil Barnes (965-9695).

**Saturday, October 3** – Puhi Bay Kayak. Details to be determined. Contact Leader Phil Barnes (965-9695).

**Tuesday, October 13, 7:00 pm** – Midway Island Slide Show – Kea'au Community Center. Sunny Seal-LaPlante (964-5017).

**Saturday, October 17** - Kaloli Service Trip (S)(E) D = 4 miles, E = sea level Hike and clear brush and debris on this historic Old Government Trail in Puna, from Paradise Park part way to the Shipman Beach (Haena) area. This is part of an ongoing project with Puna Trails. Bring water, mosquito repellent, sun screen, lunch and hand tools for clearing brush. Contact Leader Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers (966-7002); Assistant Leader, Marcie Ugoc (721-1364).

**Saturday, October 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 project. Contact Leaders Sarah and Jan Moon (935-3475).

**Sunday, November 1** – Ala Kahakai Coastal Trail Day Hike (E) D = 8 miles, E = sea level Hike is on the Ala Kahakai Trail beginning at Spencer County Beach Park and ending at Anaehoomalu Beach. The trail follows the coastline over ancient fishermen's trails and Hawaiian Kingdom roads that have been connected through generations of use to form a single continuous route. The Ala Kahakai also provides access to some of the most pristine shoreline remaining in Hawai'i as well as numerous anchialine ponds, which are unique ecosystems. Much of the trail receives only limited maintenance and short sections have been eroded by ocean waves. The trail follows the edge of potentially dangerous sea cliffs in certain areas. Contact Leader, Rich Vogler (328-8387).

**Tuesday, November 10, 7:00 pm** – Scenic National Parks of the Northwest – Kea'au Community Center. Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers (966-7002).

**Saturday, November 14** – Outings Leader Training – Location to be determined.

**Sunday, November 15** – Ala Hele Kahakai Coastal Trail Day Hike (E) D = 5 miles, E = sea level Trail is located inside the Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park. The hike takes a route that passes by three ancient fishing sites: Kaloko Fishpond, 'Aimakapa Fishpond, and 'Ai'opio Fishtrap. Contact Leader Rich Vogler (328-8387); Assistant Leader Rose Acevedo (756-5990).

**Friday, December 11, 6:00 pm** – Annual Membership Meeting – Wailoa River State Park, Pavilion #1. Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers (966-7002).

Have you ever considered being a hike leader? Meet a great group of experienced Big Island leaders. Find out what it takes to start leading your own hikes and learn about wonderful trails in your area. Please contact Rose Acevedo (756-5990) for more information.

**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**

# Chapter Directory



## Mālama I Ka Honua

is the newsletter of the Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter. Printed quarterly on recycled paper and available electronically in PDF format.

Advertising is available on a limited basis. Publishable articles and photographs are welcome. Contact (808) 538-6616 or [hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org) for more information.

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## CHAPTER DIRECTOR

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

*Chair*.....Mark Glick, [mark.glick@ganainc.com](mailto:mark.glick@ganainc.com)  
*Vice Chair*.....Lucienne De Naie, (808) 572-8331  
*Treasurer*.....Helen Chong  
*Secretary*.....Laura Edmunds Ka'aku  
*Hawai'i Service Trip Program*.....Janice Marsters, 988-3899, [janice@lava.net](mailto:janice@lava.net)  
*High School Hikers*.....Bob Keane, 623-3208  
*Kauai Group*.....Rayne Regush  
*Moku Loa Group*.....Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers  
*Oahu Group*.....Steve Montgomery  
*Maui Group*.....Lance Holter, 579-9442  
*At-Large*.....Jeff Mikulina  
*At-Large*.....Isaac Moriwake, [imoriwake@yahoo.com](mailto:imoriwake@yahoo.com)  
*At-Large*.....Gary Gill  
*At-Large*.....Judy Dalton, [dalton@aloha.net](mailto:dalton@aloha.net), 246-9067

## HAWAII SERVICE TRIP PROGRAM

*Chair*.....Janice Marsters (988-3899, [janicem@lava.net](mailto:janicem@lava.net))  
*Leadership Dev.*.....John Cummings III (527-5490)  
*Finance*.....Pauline Sato (621-2008)  
*Secretary*.....Waimea Williams (239-5423)  
*Project Evaluation*.....Amber O'Reilly  
*Recruitment*.....Scott Rowland (259-5416)  
*Treasurer*.....Jim Waddington (947-2732)

## HIGH SCHOOL HIKERS PROGRAM

*President*.....Bob Keane (623-3208)  
*Vice-President*.....Sandra Nakagawa  
*Treasurer*.....Jeannette Keane  
*Secretary*.....Pauline Kawamata  
*Membership*.....Fred Nakaguma (487-3098)  
*Newsletter*.....Adaline Kam  
*Outings*.....John Cummings

## O'AHU GROUP EXCOMM

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*Vice Chair*.....Elizabeth Dunne, [elizabethdunne@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethdunne@gmail.com)  
*Chapter Delegate*.....Steven Montgomery  
*Chapter Delegate Alternate*.....Michael Kliks  
*Secretary*.....Lydi Morgan  
*Treasurer*.....Randy Ching, [oahurandy@yahoo.com](mailto:oahurandy@yahoo.com)  
*At-Large*.....Kim Kido, [kidokimb@hawaii.edu](mailto:kidokimb@hawaii.edu)  
*At-Large*.....Carey Morishige

## KAUAI GROUP EXCOMM

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## MAUI GROUP EXCOMM

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## MOKU LOA EXCOMM

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*Vice Chair*.....Justin Avery, 990-1421, [justinavery@gmail.com](mailto:justinavery@gmail.com)  
*Secretary*.....Rose Acevedo, 756-5990, [alaorden@gmail.com](mailto:alaorden@gmail.com)  
*Treasurer*.....Haili Debus, 937-8423, [debus@hawaii.edu](mailto:debus@hawaii.edu)  
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# Chapter Executive Committee Election

MEMBERS MAY ALSO VOTE ONLINE AT [WWW.HI.SIERRACLUB.ORG/BALLOT](http://WWW.HI.SIERRACLUB.ORG/BALLOT)

Please use paper ballot on page 24 or vote online before NOVEMBER 2, 2009 -- not both

The Executive Committee establishes Chapter policies, coordinates activities, sets the budget, raises funds, recruits members, makes statewide endorsements and works on conservation campaigns.

**Caren Diamond**, a long-time advocate for coastal protection, is well-known for the landmark Supreme Court case named after her: *Diamond v State of Hawai'i*, affirming the shoreline is established at the high-water mark. Caren twice received the Kaua'i Group Environmentalist of the Year for her advocacy. Caren is dedicated to preserving Hawai'i's unique natural resources and cultural identity. With 3 children and a baby grandchild, Caren believes preserving a rural way of life and environmental gifts for future generations is most important. Caren has served on the Executive Committee of the Kaua'i Group Sierra Club for 5 years. She's also an organic gardener, hiker and chef.

**George White** is a practicing prosecutor in Honolulu and a recent recipient of a Certificate in Environmental Law from the University of Hawai'i, William S. Richardson School of Law. Over the past two years, George worked closely with the Sierra Club, as both a volunteer and a legislative extern, to reduce solid waste production by advancing legislation that would reduce or eliminate plastic bags and Styrofoam containers. Presently serving as the Chapter political compliance officer, George is excited to contribute more to the work and efforts of the Sierra Club, in promoting a more sustainable and environmentally-conscious future.

**Lucienne de Naie** is a longtime SC activist on Maui with a record of accomplishment on stream and wetland restoration, coastal and cultural site preservation and responsible planning policies. Lucienne has served on the Chapter excom over the past 19 years holding officer positions of Chapter Chair and Vice Chair (current). She is eager to help Hawaii Chapter serve its members by continuing its 40 year history as an effective advocate for Hawaii's lands, waters, creatures and people.

**Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers** is a resident of the Big Island and has been a member of the Sierra Club for 23 years. She is an environmental educator at Hawaii Community College, actively involved in Outings and fundraising for Moku Loa Group, and leads service learning field trips for youth through the college. She is currently serving as Moku Loa Chair, the Moku Loa Group representative to the Hawaii Chapter Excom and Council of Club Leaders Delegate and 5th Officer. Roberta is the Hawaii Community College Earth Fair coordinator and has previously served as Hawaii Chapter Chair. She believes actively involving youth in Sierra Club activities will strengthen our presence.

**Gary Gill** first became involved with the Sierra Club in the 1970s through service projects and High School Hikers. He was a member and Chair of the Honolulu City Council. While on Council he promoted recycling, bicycling, and the Sandy Beach initiative. Gary later served as Director of the Office of Environmental Quality Control and then Deputy Director of Health for the Environment. He assisted with passage of the "bottle bill" and the public purchase of the Ka Iwi Coast. Gary worked as Development Director for Hawai'i Chapter and recently created the Kalihi Valley Bike Exchange and Kalihi Valley Nature Park. Gary currently serves as the program director for the Blue Planet Foundation.

**Douglas "McD" Philpotts** is owner and founder of Hawaiian Furniture Company and Mountain Wood Farm, producing fine traditional Hawaiian furnishings, canoes, panels, and sculpture featuring unique contemporary designs inspired by the traditional Hawaiian art forms. His career has focused on integrating cultural values in his work to promote environmental awareness and sustainable alternatives to the harvesting of limited native island resources. He puts this into practice by primarily using a lumber inventory harvested directly from "green waste" or fallen urban timber. McD serves as Chairman of the Friends of Honouliuli and is a member of Assets School's Board of Trustees.



Sierra Club, Hawai`i Chapter

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Honolulu, HI 96803

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**Pa`ina O Ka Honua**

**6:00 pm, Friday, November 6,  
2009 at the Downtown YWCA**

Celebrate over 40 years of  
outings with great food, silent  
auction items, and  
entertainment!!!

See page 6 for more details or go  
to [www.hi.sierraclub.org](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org)

**Congratulations to the Sierra Club, Hawai`i Chapter, for being  
voted 2009 "Best Environmental Organization" by Honolulu  
Weekly!**

## Sierra Club, Hawai`i Chapter Executive Committee Election (Members Only!)

Four (4) At-Large, Two Year Positions -- Those elected will take office in January 2010

**MEMBERS MAY ALSO VOTE ONLINE AT [www.hi.sierraclub/ballot](http://www.hi.sierraclub/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. **Each member may vote for no more than four (4) candidates.** No cumulative voting is allowed.
2. **Include your name and address or your membership number (printed on your address label) 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, Hawai`i Chapter, P.O. Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803. Ballots must be postmarked by November 2, 2009.

Single

Joint

See Bios on Page 23

**Caren Diamond**

**George White**

**Lucienne De Naie**

Single

Joint

See Bios on Page 23

**Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers**

**Gary Gill**

**Douglas "McD" Philpotts**