



MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS

Spring 2011 . Newsletter . Volume 32

Introducing Joylynn Paman Rediscovering Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

Aloha e ku'u mau hoa,

About a year ago, I rediscovered the beauty of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens through the eyes of my children. I had been to the Gardens many times before, but this was the first time visiting with my two young sons. It was wonderful seeing their faces light up as they slid down the slide or played peek-a-boo through the playground's tunnel. It was also a relief for me, a stay-at-home mom for three years, to be in a place where I felt safe and at home. I could let my two boys roam freely without a worry in the world and really enjoy our moments together.

One day, after an energetic hour of play, I took them on a tour of the Gardens. We found ourselves mesmerized by all the diverse plants, flowers, vines, and trees. "Look boys, he aha kēlā kumu lā'au?" As I asked my two sons in Hawaiian about what kind of tree they saw in the distance, I found myself realizing that the Gardens was not just a safe haven for my family, it was a special place where my children could learn about our culture and see first-hand the plants and trees that are native to Hawai'i. It was an awesome ah-hah moment! Since then, we continued to regularly visit the Gardens, always having a sense of peace here and really embracing that feeling of aloha that radiated from the area surrounding us.

I come from a strong Hawaiian cultural background and have been a learner of our native language for nearly two decades. Here on our Valley Isle, I spent most of my childhood with my 'ohana in Kahakuloa and Ke'anae. I also attended school on O'ahu and am a graduate of Kamehameha - Kapālama. In 1998, I graduated with a Bachelors in Marine Science from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo then returned to Maui to begin my professional career. While working as the Hawaiian Cultural Educator for the Humpback Whale Sanctuary in Kihei, I was first introduced to Kō'ie'ie Fishpond. Little did I know that by involving myself with this fishpond, I would grow as an individual both professionally and personally.

I reignited my passion for Hawaiian culture through the revitalization of the fishpond's wall. Since 1998, I served as volunteer, vice president, and Executive Director of 'Ao'ao O Nā Loko I'a O Maui, the non-profit that is restoring Kō'ie'ie Fishpond. I was new to the non-profit world and was immediately immersed in learning how to effectively and efficiently oversee a non-profit organization, how to successfully write and implement grants, manage staff and volunteers, and create lasting partnerships within the community.



One of my proudest accomplishments was that I helped create an educational program that focused on Hawaiian fishponds. We used it as a tool to educate individuals not only about the importance of fishponds, but about the importance of preserving and perpetuating our Native Hawaiian culture, practices, traditions, and language. Over the course of thirteen years, our work resulted in edu

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info@mnbg.org

Layout Editor
U'i Naho'olewa

cating thousands of people.

Looking back at my past, I truly believe that my experiences with my 'ohana and the fishpond have prepared me for a new journey in my life. Today, I am proud and excited to be your new Executive Director. Together, with the support of our Board of Directors and an incredibly talented staff, I am confident that I can honor those who have made Maui Nui Botanical Gardens into what it is today and then take it to the next level – a place where the community can use it as a great resource for learning and exploration of native and Polynesian-introduced plants.

Being able to share my love for our culture and speak Hawaiian to my children while exploring the Gardens only made my initial experience here that much sweeter. I look forward to passing on



this passion to others. I am excited about the potential that Maui Nui Botanical Gardens has as an educational hub of resources and knowledge about our culture and conservation. I plan on using this to our advantage and to elevate our presence on Maui by educating the next generation and involving the community.

Please join me, as we look toward the future and rediscover the beauty and uniqueness of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. As our Kūpuna wisely said, Ka mo'opuna i ke alo – the grandchild in the presence. Together, we are creating a living legacy that places our upcoming generations in the spotlight as we prepare for their future by thoughtfully caring about our actions today. Let's make Maui Nui Botanical Gardens a legacy that is remembered for generations to come.

Calendar of Events

MNBG's Weed & Pot Club: Wednesdays from 8:30am-10:30am, weekly

If you love gardening, you'll love the Weed & Pot Club! This weekly volunteer group weeds in the Gardens and pots native plants in the nursery. Come ready to work with garden attire and covered shoes. Tools, gloves, sunscreen, refreshments and expertise provided! Additional group and individual volunteer opportunities available! Call 808-249-2798 for more information.

Ho'omau 2011: Saturday, March 26th, from 9am - Sunset

Support Hawaiian Immersion on Maui and join the Students of Pūnana Leo o Maui at Ho'omau 2011, held in the amphitheater. Tickets available for purchase at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens (\$10 each)

MNBG participates in Ag Fest 2011: Saturday, April 2nd, 9-4pm

Visit the Gardens' booth at Ag Fest 2011, held at Maui Tropical Plantation. Find out which native plants are best suited for your area, learn water conservation techniques, and identify 10 native plants for your chance to win a Wii!

MNBG's Native Hawaiian Plant Sale: Saturday, August 27th, from 9-12pm

Mark your calendars! Maui Nui Botanical Gardens joins forces with native plant growers throughout Maui to make your favorite native Hawaiian and Polynesian-introduced plants available for purchase on one day only! Planting information and expert advice available.



The Board and Staff of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens would like to send a heartfelt thank you to Anders Lyons and Tamara Sherrill for serving as Interim Executive Director of the Gardens, respectively, in the last year while we searched for a new Director. MNBG wishes Anders luck in all future endeavors, and is elated to have Tamara back in the Gardens, as Garden Manager.



With Gratitude from Our Garden

Mahalo to Ron Youngblood for donating four beautiful wooden benches to the Sanford Memorial Hale, Bob Klein for the kukui tree, Maui Eko Systems for mulch and compost, Jeff Gray for delivery services, Maui Kidney Foundation & Alu Like for desk donations, Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission for pesticides and fertilizer, Malafu Contracting for kiawe wood chips, Alaka'i Paleka for rags, hand towels and hangers, Robena for the inspiring native plant art, Kalele & Jeff Kekaouha-Shultz for sunscreen and reusable bags, Dr. Lorne Direnfeld for office furniture, Erik Nelson for conduit installation, and Seth Welcker for internet and print networking services.

Mahalo to our Interns & Volunteers:

Lilinoe Bal, Chawn Villalon, Regina Padilla, Kai Johnson, Malia Macabio, Robby Teeter, Michael Tuckfield, Kasey Munetake, Reena Tamura, Valerio Mesek, Chris Temple, Sean Denlinger, Darin Moniz, Nicole Feliciano, Rachael Cabanting, Greta Sagario, Anthony Occhinero, Chris Sardinha Jr, Jayden Pacheco, Deborah Kimura, Kalani Fontes, Colton Rishord, Dan Bocher, Lindsay Grier, Marlene Belschner, and Tiara Matsui.

MNBG Community Contributions

Pōmaika'i Elementary School (Taro Varieties in Hawai'i), Maui Preparatory Academy (kalo, 'awa, mai'a 'ele'ele, 'uala), Roots Maui School (kupukupu, 'ihi, 'ohe ma uka, kōki'o ke'oke'o, māmaki, kalo, nanu), Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana ('olena), Maui High School Special Education Class (transportation funding, kalo, kō), Kihei Elementary School (kō, uhi, pia, 'uala, ti, kalo, wauke), Hale Maha'olu 'Elua (hala seedlings), UHMC Students (native ferns, pia, 'uki'uki, kukui), Maui Motocross Association (milo and kukui), Kamehameha School's Maui (hau and kamani), Pōhaku Kaho'ohanohano (kō tassles and pia), Baldwin High School (mulch, compost, *Peperomia blanda*, *Hibiscus arnottianus*).

Wish List

- Tablecloths
- New or gently used lateral file cabinet
- New or used golf cart in good condition
- Mulch, manure or compost donation
- Chainsaw with 24-inch blade or longer
- Small Tractor
- Irrigation supplies
- Canon Rebel digital camera
- Wood chipping services
- Dump truck services
- Garden gloves (all sizes)
- Sickles
- Volunteer snacks
- Reusable water bottles
- Large ceramic planter pots
- Outdoor tables & chairs

If you would like to contribute to the purchase of one or more of the items listed, please call 249-2798.

LOCATION & HOURS

150 Kanaloa Avenue
Keōpūolani Park, Kahului
Across from the War Memorial Sports Complex
Monday-Saturday
8:00 am - 4:00 pm*
Free Admission
Closed Sundays & Major Holidays
*Weather permitting

GROUP RESERVATIONS

Reservations are required for group activities.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing: P.O. Box 6040
Kahului, HI 96733
TEL: (808) 249-2798 FAX: (808) 249-0325
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MNBG is now able to accept donations online!
Make a donation, pledge or renew your membership by
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SAVE A TREE!

If you would like to receive your newsletters via email, please email us at info@mnbg.org. You may also view them on our website at www.mnbg.org

Garden News

Does Urbanization Affect Bee Populations?

Reyn Isbell, a seventh-grader at ʻĪao Intermediate, chose Maui Nui Botanical Gardens as a Central Maui site to place his bee feeders for a school science project. Reyn's project was titled: "Does Urbanization Affect Bee Populations?"

His project involved recording sugar water consumption results for two to four days with equal amounts eaten from the bee feeders. More variables were introduced when his project advanced to the district level, using honey for four, eight and 24 hours. Reyn found that bees fed considerably less in urban areas. Where bees were abundant, such as in rural Kahakuloa, they consumed three times the maximum recorded for the sugar water, as well as the honey, than in urbanized areas. Reyn learned that bees are dying off because of loss of habitat due to urbanization.

Reyn was pleased when his project was chosen to go on to participate in the 52nd Annual Maui Schools' Science and Engineering Fair on Jan. 27th at the Wailuku Community Center. Congratulations, Reyn!



Reyn Isbell

Take in the beauty from the Sanford Memorial Garden



Special Mahalo to Ron Youngblood, of The Maui News, for his donation of four wooden benches to the Sanford Memorial Garden Hale. The benches complete the hale space, making it the perfect spot to stop and appreciate the beauty around us. Thank you to the Maui County Parks Department for helping with the memorial rock placement.



New 'Awa Collection!

Come see the Gardens' new 'awa collection, donated by Edward Johnston of Hawai'i and co-author of Hawaiian 'Awa: Views of an Ethnobotanical Treasure. This is the most comprehensive book on Hawaiian 'awa written to date. The collection consists of 13 known Hawaiian varieties including mapulehu, 'ohipikao, hanakapi'ai, and pana ewa among others. 'Awa has become prominent in alternative medicine for its ability to reduce anxiety, soothe sore muscles, and induce relaxation, calm, and sleep, without being addictive or impairing the user's judgment.



Maui Nui Botanical Gardens extends a big mahalo to the 1,300 residents who attended the Annual Arbor Day 1,000 Hawaiian Tree Giveaway, held on Saturday, November 6th, 2010. The celebration featured upwards of 30 species of Hawaiian trees for distribution and 15 fellow nonprofit organizations presenting information about proper planting methods, invasive species identification and water saving techniques. The event furthers the Gardens' mission of providing a gathering place for discovery, education and conservation of Hawaii's beautiful plants. Special thanks to event partners Kau'i Dickson-Awai & Maui Electric Company, Edna Manzano & the County of Maui Department of Water Supply, David Sakoda & Kaulunani, and the Maui County Arborist Committee. As always, no MNBG event would be possible without our incomparable volunteers. Mahalo to the MNBG Weed & Pot Club, Cub Scout Pack 68, Kamehameha Schools Maui National Honor Society, Maui High School Tree Huggers, Lahainaluna High School Agriculture students, UH-MC Ethnobotany students, DOFAW, and KPOA 93.5 FM: Hawaiian Music, Maui Style!

Message from the Board

What would you like to see Maui Nui Botanical Gardens look like in the future?

MNBG's Board of Directors would like to invite you to attend a community brainstorming meeting to share your ideas. These ideas will be developed into the basis for a new Master Plan for the Gardens. The goal is to integrate the Gardens' landscape design with its current conservation and education programs. This plan will reflect MNBG's commitment to conserve Maui Nui's native plants, and to preserve and appreciate the Hawaiian culture.

The meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 7th from 3-5pm**, in the Sanford Memorial Hale at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. Please join us for an afternoon of discussion and light refreshments.

See you there!

Cynthia Nazario-Leary
MNBG Board of Directors

Find the Real Hawai'i at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

Free Guided Tours: Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays at 10am
Call 808-249-2798 to make a reservation



Learn about the conservation & cultural uses of
Hawai'i's native & Polynesian-introduced plants

Join us for hands-on Hawaiian Cultural Workshops.
Visit www.mnbg.org for more information.



MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS

Sponsored by: Hawai'i Tourism Authority, County of Maui Department of Water Supply, and the Office of Economic Development.

Call to Action: MNBG needs your support!

The Maui County Council members will begin their annual budget deliberations in April 2011. The County is one of the Gardens' most important financial partners, and the annual grant they provide supports critical operating funding at MNBG. Without this funding we would not be able to carry out our important work.

We strongly urge members, volunteers, partners, grantors, and all organizations who have benefited from services provided by Maui Nui Botanical Gardens to show your support for us now. Please send a brief letter, fax or e-mail in support of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens to your County Council member or send it to:

MNBG: Letters of Support,
PO Box 6040, Kahului, HI 96733
Email: info@mnbg.org
Fax: 808-249-2798

Mahalo nui loa for your kōkua. We cannot do this without you,
MNBG Staff



MNBG will host a lauhala weaving workshop with Master weaver, Pohaku Kaho'ohanohano, this spring! Email info@mnbg.org for details.

MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens is to foster appreciation and understanding of Maui Nui's plants and their role in Hawaiian cultural expression by providing a gathering place for discovery, education and conservation.

MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS VISION STATEMENT

Cultivating widespread preservation, conservation, and integration of Hawaiian plants throughout Maui Nui.

MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS VALUES

'Oia'i'o (integrity, truth)
Hō'ala Hou (re-awaken)

Mālama (stewardship, preservation)
Hō'ona'auao (education, enlightenment)

Garden View

Maui Native Working on Book About Hawaiian Sugarcane Varieties

In the summer of 2009, Noa Kekuewa Lincoln, a current PhD student at Stanford University, visited Maui Nui Botanical Gardens to study and verify our kō collection. His doctoral work applies Hawaiian ethnobotanical knowledge to prevailing issues of sustainable agriculture and ecological management. The excerpt below is from Noa Lincoln's book, *Kō, an Ethnobotanical Guide to Hawaiian Sugarcane Varieties*, which is currently in press.

Sugarcane is known as kō in Hawai'i, and was introduced by the Polynesian voyagers who originally settled the islands. Sugarcane would have most likely been transported in the form of large stem cuttings, which is the preferred method for planting by the Polynesian people.

Whether sugarcane was brought on the initial settling voyage or whether subsequent trips were made to gather the desired plant is unclear. Hawaiian folklore provides some hints to the answer to these questions. For example, the association of kō with the god Kāne is evidence that the first voyagers to arrive in Hawai'i brought sugarcane. Kāne is associated in Hawaiian lore with the origin of man, serving as a possible metaphor for the original settlers of new islands. Many of the other crop plants used in Hawai'i are thought to have been brought overseas by the god Lono, which may indicate they were brought on a subsequent voyage by another settling family group. Work with modern genetics indicates that at least three, and perhaps more, varieties of sugarcane were introduced to Hawai'i before European contact.



Manulele ("flying bird") was used by kahuna to induce love in a distant person or a person who one might be too nervous to approach.

From these original introductions, the Hawaiian farmers, who were very adept horticulturalists, developed a great number of distinct sugarcane varieties adapted to many localities and environments. New varieties were gained by selecting sports from bud or slip mutations, or possibly the rare setting of seed. Ethnobotanists and anthropologists tend to propose that there were around 50 native cane varieties at the time of contact with Europeans in 1778. The majority of the canes, as is true with many native plants, share their name with reef fish or ocean flora.

Hawaiians used sugarcane for food, medicine, ceremonies, and as materials to create interior wall thatching, hōlua (land sledding) tracks, lei, arrows, darts, and plaited items. A distinctive and unique use of some sugarcane varieties was in connection with love magic, in which love affairs were influenced through the actions of a kahuna, or priest. A person desiring to gain the heart of another may approach kahuna and request help. Depending on the specific type of affair desired, a different type of cane would be used. Four canes were generally used: Pāpā'a, meaning to "hold fast," was used to strengthen existing relationships or to create a lifelong bond; Manulele, meaning "flying bird," was used to induce love in a distant person or a person who one might be too nervous to approach; Pilimai, meaning "come this way," was used for short, temporary affairs; and Lahi, of which little is known. Some of the spells involved a love potion that was taken to the desired person, while others were conducted simply through ritual. If one suspected that he was affected by a love spell he could approach another kahuna and attempt to undo the work of the first. The cane used in this ceremony was Laukōna, referring to the gusty southerly winds and also meaning "many dislikes," or "hard heartedness." If performed properly the Kōna wind would blow the first priest's love work away when eaten, freeing the individual of the spell.



Laukōna was used to rid one of an unwanted love or reverse the effects of love potions. Eia mai au o ke Kōna / Ka makani hele 'ulu'ulu (Here I come, the southerly storm/ The wind that blows furiously). Another name was Manini, the same name as the banana in the background. The leaves of both this kō and this mai'a are both green and white striped.

Historic Hawaiian kō varieties from the MNBG collection will be available for purchase at Ag Fest 2011. See page 2 for details.

Volunteer Central



Mahalo to the Native Hawaiian Plant Society, Habitat for Humanity, UH-MC Ethnobotany Service Learners, Maui High School Special Education Class and the incomparable Weed & Pot Club for countless hours of service in the Gardens.



Faithful volunteer, Diana Schulte, tidies the Sanford Memorial Garden.



Mike Smith propagating 'ākia with Garden Manager, Tamara Sherrill.



Weed & Pot Club member (and volunteer docent), Becky Lau, weeds with patience and precision.



MNBG Weed & Pot Club's newest member, Richard Yadao. At age 94, he proves that it's never too late to volunteer! Richard serves as an inspiration to the entire club, and rakes circles around the college kids!

Mahalo Weed & Pot Club

Gloria Adlawan	Diana Schulte
Janet Allan	Cindy Singer
Linda Brady	Mike Smith Sr.
Paul Kastner	Duncan Stenzel
Phyllis Sato	Anudeva Stevens
Deborah Kremins	Terry Thomas
Becky Lau	Winnie Wagstaff
Renee Leiter	Raymond Higashi
Velma Nakamoto	Richard Yadao
Jennifer Rose	Maggie Sniffen



Check Out What's Blooming!

Kā 'e 'e

Mucuna gigantea,

Kā 'e 'e or sea bean (*Mucuna gigantea*) is growing and flowering beautifully along the county fence leading to the park amphitheatre. This is a new native species to the Gardens, collected by MNBG Board Vice President, Bob Hobdy. The seeds, known as pēka'a, are found on beaches and were used medicinally for their strong purgative effect. These seeds can also be used for lei making.



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 Bob Wagstaff

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Pua Kala
Argemone glauca
PAPAVERACEAE
Poppy family (ENDEMIC)

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