Conserving Hawaiian Plants & Cultural Heritage



November 2009 Newsletter . Volume 28

## Arbor Day Celebration

by Lisa Raymond

Arbor Day will be celebrated on • Small equipment maintenance Maui with the annual Arbor Day Lawn & Garden Fair and Hawaiian Tree • Ono Food, Garden Door Prizes, Give-away. The Maui Association of Landscape Professionals and MNBG partner to present this wonderful event **Ongoing throughout the day:** full of educational offerings, free trees, garden and holiday gifts, ono food and • Small Engine Troubleshooting by more! Please join us this year Novem- Service Rentals & Supplies, ber 7th from 9:00- 2:00 at the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

event include the DLNR Kaulunanai and treatment ongoing at the booth Urban Forestry Program, The Maui with Norman Nagata - Plant Patholo-County Department of Water Sup- gist, and Mach Fukada - Entomologist. ply, the Maui Electric Company, and Bring a sealed sample. the Maui Farm Bureau, and the Maui County Office of Economic Develop- • Soil pH testing and education ongoing

At 12:00 the Maui Invasive Species Bring a sample of soil for testing. Committee (MISC) will be presenting plants on Maui.

Activities and demonstrations will in-

- 1,000 Hawaiian Tree Give-away
- Educational speakers, and booths
- Plant Sales, Fruit trees, Succulents, Native Plants
- Tree Planting & Pruning Demonstrations
- Landscape Industry Trade Show

- trouble shooting
- Silent Auction

- "What's Bugging you?" Insect and Our other partners supporting this plant pest and diseases - Diagnosis
  - at the Maui Community College booth.
- their 2009 Mālama i ka 'Āina Award to Tree planting, pruning, and selection a landscape professional that promotes information at the Maui Nui Botanical and aids in the use of non-invasive Garden Plant Information booth by the Free Hawaiian Tree Give-away.

This event strives to support commu- pg 6,7 nity education, beautification, and to pg 7 plant the right tree in the right place. In pg 8-9 Our Members support of this effort, the Maui Elec- pg 10 tric Company has prepared the following informational article that will help you to save money on your electric bill. Now that's something everyone can appreciate!





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NEW MNBG EMAIL !!!! info@mnbg.org

> Layout Editor U'i Naho'olewa

Cool your home with landscaping

On a hot summer day it's always pleasant to relax under the shade of a big leafy tree. The tree's shade and the evaporation of moisture on its leaves can reduce surrounding air temperatures by as much as 9° F.

A well-planned landscape can make a home more comfortable and can reduce an un-shaded home's summer air-conditioning costs by 15% to 50%.

- To use shade effectively, you need to know the size, shape, and location of the moving shadow a tree or shrub will cast. Note the sun's angle in the summertime as well as the wintertime.
- Before planting a tree make sure that it won't interfere with overhead power lines when it reaches maturity. Also note where underground utilities are located.
- When planting trees close to your home or driveway, select trees with non-aggressive roots.
- To provide continuous shade year round select trees that don't lose their leaves seasonally.
- Consult a professional arborist or landscaper when selecting trees and avoid planting trees that are invasive to our environment.

- To help cool the trade winds entering your home, plant trees along the windward side of your home.
- Plant tall trees with spreading crowns to the south of your home to provide maximum shade over your home's roof—taking care to not shade solar panels.
- Plant medium-sized trees on the west side of your home to shade it from the lower afternoon sun angles.
- Hedges or shrubs can also shade your home's walls.
  However, avoid having dense foliage growing
  immediately next to your home, especially if
  wetness or continual humidity is a problem. It is
  around the home.
- You can also use a trellis with climbing vines to shade the side of your home.
- To reduce heat radiation and cool the air around your home, plant trees, shrubs, and groundcover to shade the ground and pavement near your home perhaps shade your driveway, a sidewalk, or your lanai.
- If you have an air conditioner, shade it to increase its around the condenser.

### Letter from the President

Aloha Friends and Supporters of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens—

If you have not visited the Gardens lately, please do come! The Gardens are for everyone.

As we approach the holiday season, I always focus on Thanksgiving as a time for recognition of blessings. In that spirit, I would like to offer the following "Thanksgiving" for blessings bestowed.

To our wonderful, ever creative and dedicated staff--all of whom extend themselves way beyond their jobs--

To the volunteers who give freely of their time and energy to help our staff make the Gardens the beautiful haven it is—

To the Board of Trustees for their time given to oversight of policies, budgets, and occasional issues—and for their volunteer time at special events—
To the County of Maui for its continuing support of the Gardens through grants—

To our many constant and generous donors without whom we would not be able to offer educational programs to the community—

To all the members of the Maui community who participate in our special events and fund raisers—
To everyone who makes a contribution to Maui Nui Botanical Gardens—no matter how large or small—

My aloha and thanks to you all.

Dorothy Pyle

### MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens is to foster an appreciation and understanding of the living Hawaiian Islands of today, emphasizing the plants of Maui Nui (Maui, Moloka'i, Lana'i, Kaho'olawe), and providing a center for environemental education, Hawaiian cultural expresion, conservation, biological study and recreation.

### With Gratitude from Our Garden

Electrical surveying (Erik Nelson), Maui County Parks Department, Terry Nutt (arborist surveying & service), Diana Schulte (drill), Gloria Adlawan (buckets), Maui Coastal Land Trust (volunteer field trip), Mach Fukada (Plant sale expertise), Lumix camera (Paul Kastner & Phyllis Sato)

Mahalo to couple who donated gloves at the Plant Sale, Weed & Pot Club and Cub Scouts Pack 68.



## MNBG Community Contributions

Maui Waena Intermediate: Kalo plants for school class, MCC Tours & workshops, Kamehameha Schools (wauke, irrigation consultations, tours), *Kokia cookei* for replanting on Moloka'i, Kalo for Taro Task Force, Plant donations to KIRC for rain ceremony, Maui Coastal Land Trust: coastal seeds, and kalo for Waihe'e site, Punanaleo: Hala, Paeloko: Red Hala,

### Wish List

- New or used Golf Cart in good condition,
- 10 5-gallon buckets
- 15 pairs of gardening gloves
- Large Chainsaw
- 12 yards of compost
- Drip irrigation supplies
- Digital answering machine
- Canon Rebel Digital Camera
- Maui News Subscription
- Wood Chipping Services
- Dump Truck Services
- Backhoe services

\*If you would like to contribute to the purchase of one or more of the items above, 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\*
Closed Sundays & Major Holidays
\*Weather permitting & staff availability.

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

Email: info@mnbg.org Website: www.mnbg.org





## 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 online on our website at www.mnbg.org.

# Garden News

## New Sponsor:

## Hawaiian Springs

Hawaiian Springs LLC, a premier natural water brand recognized for bottling some of the purest and most sustainable waters in the world, has sponsored the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens, supplying the Gardens' volunteers with fresh, sweet water to drink while they work to conserve native species.

"The Maui Nui Botanical Gardens works diligently to care for the plants and flowers that characterize Hawaii as a flourishing tropical locale, and that we also strive to protect by supporting groups such as the Nature Conservancy," said Rick Hadley, CEO of Hawaiian Springs. "As our company continues its expansion into the mainland and more consumers are able to enjoy the refreshing, smooth taste of Hawaiian Springs, we plan to further extend our commitment to our local community by increasing awareness of the natural, yet fragile beauty of Hawaii."

"Our staff deeply appreciates Hawaiian Springs' dedication to protecting our state's rare wildlife," said Lisa Schattenburg-Raymond, executive director of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. "We are extremely thankful to the company for its generous contribution to our cause, and we look forward to our joint efforts toward keeping Ha-



waii green and beautiful."

Like the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens, Hawaiian Springs makes a concerted effort to minimize waste and conserve its local environment. With a sustainable use rating of 740 million gallons per day, the Hawaiian Springs aquifer is one of the most robust and healthiest water sources in the world. In addition, the company protects natural resources by acquiring production materials from local Hawaiian suppliers, and by using fewer materials and fuel miles from water source to market. As part of its commitment to preserving Hawaii's most cherished resources—its natural flora, fauna and ecosystem—Hawaiian Springs also serves on the Corporate Council for the Environment for the Nature Conservancy. For more information on Hawaiian Springs, visit www.hawaiianspring.com.

A big mahalo to Paradise Beverages for helping to facilitate the pick up of the Hawaiian Springs donation.

## Plant Sale: Review



Over 300 Maui residents came to the plant sale to take advantage of the rare opportunity to purchase unique native plants. Experts were on hand to answer questions on landscaping, propagation and

everything else having to do with plants. Six nurseries and the Water Department participated, giving the public numerous native plant varieties to choose from for all types of landscapes and elevations. We thank the nurseries, the experts, the Water Department, our volunteers and the Maui community for making the event successful, and playing their part in the conservation of our beautiful islands.

# 2009-2010 Calendar

### Arbor Day Lawn & Garden Fair & Hawaiian Tree Give Away November 7, 2009 Saturday 9:00am - 2:00pm

MNBG and the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals partner to present the 3rd Annual Arbor Day event, with a 1,000 tree give- away and Lawn & Garden Fair. In addition to the tree giveaway, there will be vendors with new and innovative products as well as educational information about all things green. Free Admission.

### New Year's Plant Sale!

January 30, 2010 Saturday 9:00am - 12:00pm

Help ring in the New Year with new plants! Make good on your resolution to conserve Hawai'i's resources by planting native. Multiple growers and plant experts to answer all questions. Great pricing on rare and unique plants! Don't miss it.



Maui Nui Botanical Gardens & Maui Association of Landscape Professionals

# Lawn & Garden Fair Hawaiian Tree Give-away



**1,000 Hawaiian Trees Will Be Given Away** 

# Saturday **November 7, 2009** 9am to 2pm

At Maui Nui Botanical Gardens, 150 Kanaloa Ave., Kahului. Free Admission.

Parking across the street at the War Memorial Football Stadium.

www.mnbg.org 249-2798 www.malp.org











- Plant Sales: Fruit Trees, **Succulents, Native Plants**
- Tree Planting & Pruning Demonstration
- Soil pH Testing & Education by M.C.C. Agriculture Department
- Plant Pest Identification & **Education**
- Landscape Industry Trade Show
- Ono Food, Door Prizes & Silent Auction
- Landscape Equipment **Troubleshooting**







# The Garden View

by Nohea Daliva



The Maui Nui Botanical Gardens displays more than 500 varieties of native and Polynesian introduced plants. In the last few years MNBG initiated a number of collections surveys throughout the state, to determine the status of collections of rare Hawaiian plant varieties. MNBG has supported the tracking, documentation and research of several species at the Gardens. Special attention has been given to studying food crops such as Kalo (Taro), 'Uala (Sweet Potato) and Kō (Sugar Cane). Since MNBG features these crops in our collection, we have been host to a number of research initiatives.

Stanford University Ph.D candidate, and Maui native, Noa Lincoln, recently spent six days at the Gardens intensely studying and documenting the 40 varieties in our Hawaiian sugar cane collection. Noa is conducting this research under esteemed scientist Dr. Peter M. Vitousek whose has been doing fascinating research in nutrient cycling and limitations in Hawai'i.

Dr. Vitousek and his team have been re-

searching traditional agricultural practices in the Kona field system which may reveal clues about how the Hawaiian systems of land management were so successful over hundreds of years of continuous cultivation. The results of this study could have profound influence and could potentially change the way we look at the agriculture presently and in the future.

The Garden has also initiated efforts to document taro and sweet potato varieties, and MNBG will be pooling these efforts with other organizations state-wide to increase understanding of our collections. Some of these collections have not been studied for more than 40 years.

Hawai'i island resident, kalo farmer, Taro Task Force representative, and kalo expert Jerry Konanui, has been heavily involved in helping to sort out and correctly identify taro collections around the state. Maui resident, conservation planner, kalo grower, and Taro Task Force representative, Penny Levin, and O'ahu resident, and taro enthusiast Weston Yap has also been involved in the collections identification, process. Weston and Penny have embarked on an ambitious project to extensively photograph and document taro varieties. This information will be available and accessible on a new kalo website being developed by Weston.

Recently these and other supporters from the community helped to ensure legislation was passed for the protection of kalo from genetic modification. The resolution introduced by Councilmember Bill Kauakea Medeiros was unanimously supported by our Council Members. Mahalo to the County Council and Mayor Charmaine Tavares for their understanding of the importance of this Hawaiian cultural resource.

## The Garden View

Continued from pg. 6

Historically there may have been as many as 300 varieties of kalo in cultivation throughout the islands. These varieties were selected for certain favored characteristics and growing conditions. We are now only rediscovering and reacquainting ourselves with the vast knowledge that was commonplace to our ancestors. MNBG's collection has over 70 varieties of kalo displayed in raised beds in the garden.

The importance of securing the biodiversity of these food crops could hold the key to sustainable agriculture for our future. These nutritious traditional foods can help to wean the community off our dependence of imported products thus re-investing into our local agriculture. We strongly encourage those of you who are interested to grow your own food and if unable, to buy local.



# Volunteer Central

Mahalo to our volunteers who contributed numerous hours to making the Gardens beautiful. Special thanks to: Valerio Mesek, MCC Ethnobotany service learning students Johnattan Topinio, Richie Campas, Nick Timpone, Josh Sommer and Kim Rose, plant sale volunteers, Weed & Pot Club, Robert Lee, Mach Fukada and John Aquino.

### Mahalo to Our Weed & Pot Volunteers

Gloria Adlawan Deborah Kremins
Janet Allan Becky Lau
Raymond S. Higashi Renee Leiter
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Paul Kastner Valerio Mesek
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If you love working with plants, you'll love the Weed & Pot Club! Meeting every Wednesday morning, at 8:30am till 10:30am. Spend time helping the Gardens thrive through weeding and propagation. Offsite field trips, workshops and lectures scheduled several times a year for our volunteers only! Come prepared to work with covered shoes, water bottle and garden attire. All tools, gloves, sunscreen and expertise provided. Join us every Wednesday!

For more information, call 249-2798 or visit www.mnbg.org

### MNBG Continues Conservation Efforts

The MNBG recently sent 200+ rare Nānū Gardenia brighamii to Lāna'i for reintroduction into the wild. Currently, less than 50 individuals remain in the wild. This native gardenia was formerly also found on Hawai'i, Maui, & O'ahu. Two of our three gardenia species are endangered. Stephanie Seidman, our nursery manager works with Hank Oppenheimer, the Maui Coordinator for the Plant Extinction Prevention Program to grow seriously endangered plants for eventual reintroduction into the wild. "Working with these plants is a great privilege and we're thankful to have the opportunity to partner with the PEPP program and other Maui nurseries to help these species. (Photo credit: Forest & Kim Starr)

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