Conserving Hawaiian Plants & Cultural Heritage



Fall 2012 . Newsletter . Volume 37

# 'Tis the Season to Kokua

By Joylynn Paman Executive Director

Last summer, Lesley Czechowicz brought a friend to Maui Nui Botanical Gardens to enjoy a free guided tour led by volunteer docent, Gloria Adlawan. As they meandered through the Gardens, Gloria introduced them to scores of Native Hawaiian and Polynesian-introduced plants. Many visitors find it intriguing to learn about the different cultural and medicinal uses of our plant collections such as how the yellow sap of puakala (Hawaiian poppy) can be used to remove warts, or how a fragrant green soap can be made by mashing 'ānapanapa leaves together with some water.

Making their way along the Gardens' kō (sugarcane) collection, Gloria continued sharing fascinating anecdotes. "Here, we have the manulele sugarcane variety. This was used in love magic. If someone wanted a person to fall in love with them, they'd have a kahuna hana aloha use this variety to cast a spell upon that person." Knowing that she had peaked the interest of Lesley and her friend, Gloria continued, "on the other hand, here, we have the laukona variety which broke the love spell."

Intrigued by these and other moving tales of old Hawai'i, the two visitors were eager to learn more. They pointed to



MNBG docent, Gloria Adlawan, and Garden supporter, Lesley Czechowicz, pose with a newly labeled manulele variety of Hawaiian sugarcane.

an unlabeled variety of sugarcane, asking Gloria to share how it was used in early Hawai'i. Gloria shrugged as our collection did not have ample signage to distinguish all of the different sugarcane varieties. Motivated by what she had learned about Hawaiian plants that morning, and knowing how much more information could be shared with visitors, Lesley graciously donated \$1,000 to assist MNBG in posting identification signs for our entire kō collection. With the new signs in place, Gloria and the rest of our knowledgeable volunteer docents continue to inspire MNBG visitors on a weekly basis.

MNBG relies heavily on the generosity of supporters like Lesley as we work to achieve our mission of conserving Hawaiian plants and cultural heritage. As we approach the giving season this fall, please take a moment to consider some of the many reasons to support Maui Nui Botanical Gardens:

For starters, your financial contributions help keep the Gardens beautiful! Our garden staff and volunteers are out in the sun up to eight hours each day weeding, raking, fixing irrigation leaks, propagating and planting new native plants. Your donations are used to provide our dedicated volunteers with essential items including thirst quenching drinks, sunscreen, eye protection, gloves, band aids and so much more. Past donations have also allowed MNBG to purchase a new chainsaw to help cut down drooping branches, a new edger to maintain crisp lines along our planting beds, and when our golf cart, which is essential to our daily work, is on the brink of breaking down, your dollars help pay for repairs. These are just a few of the ways you help keep our team happy and our Gardens beautiful. continued on pg 2

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Layout Editor, U'i Naho'olewa

Our plants also need your kōkua. They need fertilizer and proper soil amendments to keep them strong. They need to be propped up with strong stakes when high winds aim to blow them over. They need irrigation parts to deliver just the right amount of water while alsohelping to conserve the precious resource. They also need to be trimmed with the proper tools to prevent irreversible damage. By making a financial contribution, we are able to purchase these types of necessary items which help keep our plants healthy and growing.

We also can't forget our keiki and community organizations that come to MNBG to learn about our plants and participate in service learning projects. In fiscal year 2012 alone, we had 917 participants from school groups and community organizations visit the Gardens. While here, they were given educational materials, participated in cultural activities, and used garden tools which are all financially supported by donations from people like you.

Looking into the future, your monetary contributions can also help fund the

new direction of the Gardens. We have been developing a new vision for MNBG which includes creating themed gardens that enhance our visitors' experiences and improve spaces to encourage the community to gather and celebrate Hawaiian plants. We are at the beginning stages of this process, and your funds would enable us to hire professionals to draw up landscaping, irrigation, and architectural plans which would help get us well on our way.

These are just a few of the many reasons why you, too, could join Lesley and many others who have contributed to the Gardens. Please consider making a financial contribution to MNBG this season and kōkua our Native Hawaiian plants. Whether it's \$25 or \$25,000, your monetary contribution will help keep Maui Nui Botanical Gardens beautiful and continue to be a gathering place for the entire community to enjoy for years to come.



Some of the many varieties of Hawaiian Sugarcane featured at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.



Become a friend of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens on Facebook!

Receive updates on upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and learn more about Hawai'i's unique plants within 'MNBG's Hawaiian plant of the day' photo album!

www.facebook.com/mauinuibotanicalgardens

#### **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.

## Save The Date!

#### Ho'omau 2013:

#### Saturday, March 23rd, from 9 AM to Sunset

Celebrate the 26th year of Hoʻomau; the annual fundraiser which supports programming for Pūnana Leo O Maui Hawaiian Language Immersion Preschool. This is the premier Hawaiian language and entertainment event for the entire family and will feature great food, crafts, silent auction and fun for the keiki. MNBG will be selling Hawaiian plants at this exciting event. www.hoomaui.com

#### Ola Ka Honua- Earth Day 2013: Saturday, April 13th, from 10 AM - 3 PM

MNBG's annual Earth Day Celebration is a free family event focusing on the preservation of native Hawaiian resources and culture. There will be earth friendly information booths, games, cultural demonstrations, great food and entertainment! Native Hawaiian plants will be available for purchase.

#### East Maui Taro Festival at Hāna Ballpark: Saturday, April 20th, from 9 AM – 5 PM

Head to Hāna for a day of learning and celebration! The 21st Annual East Maui Taro Festival will feature an exceptional Farmers' Market, poi pounding demonstrations, arts and crafts, food booths, non-profit organizations sharing information, as well as beautiful Hawaiian music and hula! MNBG will have an information booth highlighting our resources and programs.

### With Gratitude from Our Garden:

Keali'i Reichel for manele seeds for Arbor Day Tree Giveaway, Leonard Paleka, Adam Matsumoto and Chris Davidson for newsletter folding, Gloria Adlawan for utensils and 5 gallon buckets, Renee Kaina & Eryck Bautista for wiliwili seeds, Maggie Sniffen for plates and utensils, Elizabeth Myhre for books on native plants and Hawaiian culture, Cindy Singer for Tshirts and reusable water bottles, Kaunoa Senior Center for beautifully hand painted ceramic pots, DeCoite Tree Service for 20 cubic yards of mulch, and Hawaiian Springs for drinking water.

### Mahalo to our Interns & Volunteers:

Mary Emmons, Larry Ildefonso, Caitlin Rapoza, Danielle Saffery, Jade Golden, Kalikiano Carson, Joshua Pacheco, Darin Moniz, and Daniel Biho. Taro Sale Volunteers: Penny Levin, Paul Kastner, Gloria Adlawan, Terry Thomas, Mikki Clark and Diana Schulte. August Plant Sale Volunteers: Cub Scouts Pack #68, Alakaʻi Paleka & the KPOA 93.5 FM ʻOhana, Kaydee Park, Dancine & Hayden Takahashi, Stephanie Seidman & Rebecca Czar, Ann & Makanahele Emmsley, Corey Brown, Jan King, Lopaka Silva, Judy McCorkle, Kathy Wong, Mach & Pam Fukada, Kalei & Vernon Tangaro, Amanda Emmes, Gwen Morinaga-Kama, Kainoa Casco, Luther, Helen & Lukela Kanae, Members of the Kamehameha Schools Maui National Honor Society, and the Weed & Pot Club.

**MNBG Community Contributions:** 

Moloka'i Applied Research and Demonstration Farm in Ho'olehua (kalo), 'Īao School (kalo), Hawaiian Canoe Club (naupaka kahakai), Pūnana Leo O Maui (kalo), Nā Kia'i 'o Waine'e committee of Waiola Church ('a'ali'i, alahe'e, 'ākia, halapepe, hau, 'uki'uki, ma'o, noni), Royal Order of Kamehameha (native plants valued at \$25), Haleakalā Waldorf School (native plants valued at \$25), Princess Nahi'ena'ena Hawaiian Immersion Program ('ōhi'a lehua, ipu, 'ulu), Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission ('ulu, kō), Maui High School Special Education Class ('ulu), Hālau Nā Hanona Kū Like O Pi'ilani (hala fruit), Kīhei Charter School (15 kalo varieties), Friends of Moku'ula ('ākia, 'āweoweo, 'ilie'e, 'ilima, kō, noni, pōhinahina, pā'ū o hi'iaka, 'ahu'awa, koali 'ai), Ka Hālāwai 'O Honokohau (wauke), and St. John's Church (hibiscus, ma'o, 'uki'uki, 'ōhi'a lehua, kalo, noni, alahe'e).

### Wish List

- Volunteer snacks
- Garden gloves (all sizes)
- Long sleeve shirts from savers
- Table Cloths
- Rakes
- Medium sized picks
- Shovels
- Sickles

- Sunshine mix #4 bales
- Mulch
- Large ceramic planter pots from Indolotus in Kīhei
- Outdoor tables & chairs
- Washing Machine
- Chainsaw with 24 inch blade or longer
- Wood chipping services
- Dump truck services

- Small tractor
- Pick-up Truck
- Hawaiian Miles (for interisland travel to conferences)

\*If you would like to contribute to the purchase of one or more of the items above, please call 808-249-2798.

#### **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

Email: info@mnbg.org



NEW! Give Online

MNBG is now able to accept donations online!

Make a donation, pledge or renew your membership by visiting www.mnbg.org and clicking on "make a donation".



The Mission of 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.

# Garden News

# Fostering appreciation of Hawai'i's medicinal plants

In mid-September, the staff and volunteers at MNBG were treated to a very special presentation on lā'au lapa'au (the Hawaiian practice of healing through herbal remedies) by Kamehameha School's Maui Senior, 'Iwalani Ka'a'a.

For her senior project, 'Iwalani chose to research the ancient uses of Hawaiian medicinal plants including noni, māmaki, puakala, kukui and pōpolo. Inspired by her findings, she contacted MNBG and requested a meeting with our volunteers who lead free weekly guided tours of the Gardens' botanical collection. It was 'Iwalani's hope that our docents would also be inspired by this knowledge and incorporate her research into their current tours.

'Iwalani's presentation began with an oli (chant) taken from Na Pule Kahiko, by June Gutmanis. This particular chant was used in old Hawai'i by kahuna lā'au lapa'au before collecting pōpolo (*Solanum americanum*); which was used in treatments of respiratory problems and to heal inflamed eyes. Information packets that included the medicinal uses of each plant were handed out, along with samples of dried māmaki leaves which can be brewed into an invigorating tea that acts as a cleansing agent to fight fatigue. Her presentation ended with a mock guided tour where 'Iwalani demonstrated how the lā'au lapa'au information could be seamlessly integrated.

At Kamehameha Schools Maui, 'Iwalani is part of the business and leadership academy with a human services emphasis. She has a passion for the Hawaiian culture, the environment, and educating people about it. We thank 'Iwalani for sharing her knowledge with us, and encourage her to continue to pursue her passion!



'Iwalani shared information about many native Hawaiian medicinal plants including pōpolo which was used to treat respiratory problems, heal cuts and wounds, and calm inflamed eyes.



'Iwalani noted that parts of 'ulu (breadfruit) trees were used to heal cuts, chapped skin, scratches, and sores around the mouth.

## Aloha, Stephanie!



The Board & Staff would like to say aloha and mahalo nui to MNBG Nursery Manager, Stephanie Seidman, for many years of amazing work. Stephanie left the Gardens to be a full time mom, but has already been back to volunteer at events and the Weed & Pot Club!

### Free Guided Tours

MNBG's volunteer docents led guided tours and cultural activities for many residents, visitors, schools and organizations this season. These include the Global Garden Project, Sun Island Hawai'i's Sustainable Program, UH-MC's Environmental Ecology Course, Kaunoa Senior Center, Princess Nahi'ena'ena Hawaiian Immersion Program, Pā'ia



Hawaiian Immersion Program, Maui Home School Association, Temptation Tours, The Free Thinkers Gathering, and Kamehameha Intermediate School. Visitors from the neighbor islands, Virginia, California, Washington, Germany and Japan also participated in free guided tours.

Guided tours at MNBG are offered on Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 10 am, by appointment only. Call 808-249-2798 or email info@mnbg.org for reservations. Donations of \$5 per person to support the Gardens' nonprofit mission are greatly appreciated. Special group and student tours also available.



# 1,000 Hawaiian Tree Giveaway

Saturday, November 3rd, 2012 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. At Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

150 Kanaloa Avenue in Kahului

## Free Admission, Free Parking and a Free Hawaiian Tree!

- Free mini-workshops on proper tree care, water saving techniques, and more!
- Visit conservation and community organization booths sharing information about Hawai'i's important environmental issues.
- Speak to plant experts who can help answer your tree and landscaping questions.

Enjoy a free tour of the Gardens.

Refreshments Available.





Across the street from the War Memorial Stadium. www.mnbg.org phone: (808) 249-2798

### 1,000 Native Hawaiian & Polynesian-introduced trees will be given away.

Courtesy of: Maui Electric Company, Kaulunani Urban and Community Forestry Program, The County of Maui's Department of Water Supply and Maui Nui Botanical Gardens











# Garden View

Maui Nui Botanical Gardens recently donated koʻokoʻolau (*Bidens mauiensis*), nehe (*Melanthera lavarum*), and nehe (*Lipochaeta succulenta*) to State Entomologist, Mach Fukada. These plants will be used for the State Plant Pest Control Branch's research into a biocontrol for the invasive plant, Fireweed (*Morella faya*) The scientists need to test this proposed biocontrol on a variety of native species to

determine whether it would threaten native ecosystems before any biocontrol can be approved for introduction into Hawaiʻi. Mahalo to Mach and the State Entomology Department for including us on this project. Stay tuned, as the MNBG staff plans to actively seek out more conservation projects and partnerships like this one in the coming year.



Nehe (Melanthera lavarum) blooms at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

## **August Plant Sale Review:**



Hōkūao Pelligrino of Nohoʻana Farm demonstrates the art of poi pounding.

'Ōlena colors a picture of kalo while learning about the different varieties.

Aunty Kela is the hostess with the mostest at MNBG's sugarcane juice booth!

On Saturday, August 25th, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens hosted a Native Hawaiian plant sale and family fun day that brought in a little over 600 residents from across the isle. The sale featured approximately 65 varieties of native plants suitable for various areas from ma uka to ma kai. A majority of the plants were grown by Maui Nui Botanical Gardens with additional natives sold by Kulamanu Farms, Native Nursery, and New Moon Enterprises.

Live entertainment and family fun was provided by KPOA 93.5 FM. Keiki enjoyed participating in a native plant coloring contest while adults were entertained by the Morning Goddess, Alaka'i

Paleka, and music by Mikey Mina and Nā Hīmeni. Nohoʻana Farm's Native Hawaiian taro farmer, Hōkūao Pelligrino, excited his audience with a two-hour-long poi pounding demonstration and their reward was eating freshly pounded taro! A garden tour and freshly pressed sugarcane juice was also provided by MNBG volunteers.

"It's wonderful to see so many people take interest in native plants," noted MNBG Executive Director, Joylynn Paman. "The more natives we have in our landscape, the better it'll be for our environment and for connecting our community to the Hawaiian culture. Today's turn out has been encouraging to see our residents excited about natives."

This event was sponsored by the County of Maui's Office of Economic Development and Dept. of Water Supply, KPOA 93.5 FM and E Kūpaku Ka 'Āina - The Hawai' i Land Restoration Institute. Mahalo nui to our dedicated volunteers for helping us pull off yet another awesome event!



Anne Carter, of Kulamanu Farms, points a plant sale guest in the right direction.

# Volunteer Central



Weed & Pot Club members, Mālie & Gloria, pose for a photo before getting back to work in MNBG's kalo collection.



The Weed & Pot club volunteered at the Hakalau Forest Reserve on the Big Island this Summer.



Terry & Diana calculated purchases at MNBG's recent kalo sale.



If you love working with native plants, you'll love the Weed & Pot Club! This volunteer gardening group meets every Wednesday morning, from 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM. Spend your morning helping the Gardens thrive through weeding and propagation. Off site field trips, workshops and lectures are scheduled several times a year for our volunteers only. Come prepared to work with covered shoes and gardening attire.

## Mahalo Weed & Pot Club

Angie Boehler Kalei Kamaka Phyllis Sato Becky Lau Keauhou Mitchell Raymond Higashi Cindy Singer Kella Tejeda-Figueroa Remi Sabado Darryl Amaral Linda Brady Renee Leiter Dawitt Abraha Mikki Clark Robert Pitts Diana Schulte Maggie Sniffen Robin Yamashita Gail Ainsworth Malie Unabia-Verkerke Terry Thomas Gloria Adlawan Marsha Brown Velma Nakamoto

Pamela Jayne

Paul Kastner

# Check Out What's Blooming!

## 'Awapuhi

Zingiber zerumbet
Polynesian-introduced

'Awapuhi is the kinolau of the Hawaiian god, Kāne. In old Hawai'i, the fresh roots were pounded and used to treat indigestion and severe sprains. Perhaps the most common use of 'awapuhi is as a shampoo and conditioner. The clear and sudsy juice present in the mature flower heads is excellent for softening and bringing shine to your hair. 'Awapuhi is now in bloom at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens! Come take a look!



Janet Allan

Jennifer Rose

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Garden Manager: Tamara Sherrill

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Grounds Maintenance: John Aquino

Garden Technician: Jesse Felts

**CURRENT DONORS** 

Mahalo to our new & returning donors!

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Mary Evanson Jim Moriyasu Kī'ope Raymond & Lisa Schattenburg - Raymond Mary Cameron Sanford

#### **Current Grantors:**

AHS Foundation, County of Maui Office of Economic Development, County of Maui Department of Water Supply, DLNR- Kaulunani Urban and Community Forestry Program, Leiter Family Foundation, Zadoc W. & Lawrence N. Brown Foundation, Mary Cameron Sanford, Ceres Trust.

#### Sponsors:

Hawaiian Springs, LLC

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# In Memoriam Charles Lamoureux

Charles Lamoureux Stanley Raymond George Schattenburg We are extremely grateful to all who have made donations to the Gardens over the years. Beginning January 2012, MNBG will highlight only our annual donors and those who have contributed in the current year.

We make every effort to assure an accurate membership list; however, if your name was omitted or misspelled, please contact us at info@mnbg.org and we will be happy to update our records.

# Call to Action: MNBG needs your support!

The Maui County Council members will begin their annual budget deliberations in Spring 2013. The County is one of the Gardens' most important financial partners, and the annual grant they provide supports critical operating funding at MNBG.

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: 808-249-0325

## MNBG Successfully Moves Kalo Collection

Through a generous grant from E Kūpaku Ka 'Āina - The Hawai'i Land Restoration Institute, MNBG was able to move our collection of 58 kalo varieties to another portion of the Gardens. This move will allow our previous planting beds some much needed time to rest. Mahalo to the many volunteers who have helped us with tilling, mulching, irrigation installation, planting, and rigorous record keeping.

MNBG's kalo collection in raised beds, 2009



New home of MNBG's kalo collection, 2012



MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS P.O. Box 6040 Kahului, HI 96733

Visit us on the web at: www.mnbg.org



Koʻoloaʻula *Abutilon menziesii* Endemic, Endangered

## SUPPORT THE GARDENS & HELP NATIVE PLANTS THRIVE

Kupu means to sprout or grow. Just like the kupukupu ferns, you can help the Gardens grow through donations, memberships, bequests or by volunteering. Your contribution helps to ensure the survival and perpetuation of native Hawaiian plants and culture.

#### DONATE

Donations of monetary or in-kind contributions are greatly appreciated.

To contribute, please fill out the enclosed donation envelope, call 249-2798 or visit www.mnbg.org to donate online.

#### **M**EMBERSHIP

Yearly memberships help to fund important botanical and educational programs, research and conservation efforts. Fill out the enclosed donation envelope or call 249-2798 to become a member.

#### LEAVE A LEGACY

Play a lasting part in protecting Hawai'i's native plants through planned giving. Consider making a bequest to the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens in your will or trust. Call 249-2798.

#### VOLUNTEER

Give a gift of time. Volunteering at MNBG helps the Gardens accomplish many projects and also gives you an opportunity to learn about and work with native plants.

Join our Weed & Pot Club every Wednesday morning from 8:30 am - 10:30 am.

Call 249-2798 or visit www.mnbg.org for more information.