



Kōke'e Connections

Hui o Laka Membership Newsletter

APRIL 2024

CCC Camp Groups Thrive at Kōke'e

From retreats and intensive programs to community gatherings, Kōke'e is an ideal place to unite and inspire our community. Everyone wonders what kind of groups use the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp. Camp manager Wai Kuapahi shared recent programs utilizing the barracks.

Having a dry bed and hot shower makes intensive fieldwork in the mountains an easier sell, especially in February. Hallux Ecosystem Restoration LCC made the CCC Camp their home away from home using Barracks C for their team and partners. The two-week program, broken into two parts, featured a weekend break. Alex Dutcher, Co-Owner and Lead Biologist of Hallux Ecosystem Restoration, along with her team of ten, partnered up with the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) and the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) to work on a substantial restoration, reforestation and a replanting project using Native Hawaiian Plants at a designated Makaha Ridge Forest site. This successful restoration project required hard work, time, and energy.

The company is a locally owned and operated predator control company on the island of Kaua'i, Hawai'i. They have a team of invasive predator control experts, wildlife biologists, and National Wildlife Control Operators Association (NWCOPA) Certified Wildlife Control Operators focused on protecting threatened and endangered seabirds in both the remote mountainous wilderness areas and the coastal preserves of Kaua'i. By developing and applying advanced methods and techniques to most effectively and efficiently manage and remove invasive predators, Hallux uses a combination of the best available science, years of experience, and traditional trapping knowledge. If you are interested in a career in environmental protection, this company may be for you!

For the second year, Malia Chun coordinated the Aha 'Opio Wahine Program comprised of moms and daughters from grades 9-12 under the University of Hawai'i Nā Pua No'ēau Program. Their weekend stay included a full curriculum of hands-on activities, exercises, presentations, and fellowship, providing bonding and lasting memories. The CCC Camp's Mess Hall was the gathering place and worked well since the March weather wasn't Kōke'e at its finest. Not having the distraction of cell phones and the internet aided in the carrying out of the program.

Nā Pua No'ēau is a University of Hawai'i program Dr. David Kekaulike Sing founded in 1989. In 2018, Nā Pua No'ēau UH Mānoa became a program under Native Hawaiian Student Services to support programs from Pre-K to Kupuna that firmly believe all Native Hawaiian children have inherited gifts to reach their potential. The overall mission of Nā Pua No'ēau is to inspire children of all ages to accomplish their

post-high and career goals for the future. With family engagement, college preparedness, and summer enrichment opportunities, students participating in the program will pursue their post-secondary and career pathway aspirations. The program, now found in all UH Campuses, was founded by David Kekaulike in 1989 at the Hilo campus. For more information on Nā Pua No'ēau's opportunities, call 808-956-0939.

Most recently, in April, the Nā Pali Coast 'Ohana, a grassroots organization dedicated to preserving the scenic and cultural landscape of the Nāpali Coast State Park, gathered at the CCC Camp to hammer out a strategic plan. Despite the record rainfall, the work continued unabated, and we are happy to say that with only a few leaks in the Mess Hall, the group was comfortable and had a chance to bond and focus on the work they needed to do.

In May, we are cheering on our "home" team, Wolf Pack, as they participate in the Pedal to the Meadow bike race. They'll stay at the camp for a third year for the race weekend. It allows them to get a good night's sleep before the race and relax after!

Anyone wishing to use the CCC Camp for a group retreat please inquire using the email address: cccamp@kokee.org Wai Kuapahi is the camp manager. Look for more stories about our group users.



The CCC Camp is the only group facility available with a paved driveway.

Hui o Laka's Capital Campaign

Hui o Laka's only responsibility, when founded in 1954, was to operate a museum that would benefit park visitors at no cost to the Territory. The Park was responsible for maintaining the building, a relocated and remodeled World War II Barracks from 'Awa'awapuhi. Then, as today, money was earned from donations at the door, gift shop revenue, and membership. It had two employees: a director/manager and a yard service person.

How things have changed in 70 years! Programs have come and gone, as have employees, trustees, and volunteers. Hui o Laka's financial responsibilities substantially grew as it took on the nearly derelict Civilian Conservation Corps Camp. Business models have also come and gone, but we seem to be growing that operation after substantial investment and facility improvement. The remoteness of Kōke'e State Park adds substantially to the difficulties of hiring staff and finding or providing volunteer opportunities and deliveries of goods and supplies. The good news is we have been improving our operations and using the proceeds to improve the facilities and offerings to park visitors.

We are on the downhill run to complete reroofing and critical repairs to all the buildings that Hui o Laka is responsible for at Kōke'e State Park. Our island residents have made Kōke'e Museum's gift shop successful to sustained the organization's operating budget. Improvements to operations also helped fund the smaller projects or gaps in funding.

Highlights of Capital Projects since 2020

- In March to April July 2020 – Pu'u ka Pele cabin was repaired after weather-related damage. The cabin was gifted to Hui o Laka in 1980 by Ruth Knudsen Hanner to house the museum director.

- In 2021 – the Kōke'e Natural History Museum exterior was repainted, including the roof, after some repairs and patching in preparation for its 70th anniversary in 2023 and refurnishing the Mess Hall.

- In 2021 and 2022 Barracks Upgrades - Interior remodel of Barracks C, turning storage space into a kitchenette and lounge—on-demand gas plumbed for both barracks showers and Mess Hall.

- In 2023 – the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp underwent the first reroofing projects, starting with the former foreman's and executive cabins and administrative buildings. The final job for the year was Barracks C.

- In 2023 and 2024 – Electrical upgrades in the camp to bring some areas to code and improve and unify the supply line around the camp.



- In 2024 – Roofing on Barracks A, a shed, and a bathroom wing of Barracks B were completed. Replumbing the Hanner property – upgraded from original 1930s galvanized pipes and fixtures. A septic system for the two cabins is being approved. One cabin has been offline for over ten years.

We have one significant roof to replace along with the California Cooler. There are some repair projects to the exteriors of some buildings, including the admin building, the two cabins, and Barracks A's wheelchair ramp. We also need screens for windows and doors around the CCC Camp because mosquitos are now a reality and a new stainless-steel sink for the Mess Hall.

Already, Hui o Laka has seen increased public use of the CCC Camp by individuals, families, and groups in various areas of the camp as they have been improved.

Photos below are the work in progress on Barracks A.



History Files - Newly Transformed State Park

Top to bottom photographs taken by George Bacon in the mid-1960s: Ranger's Station, Kōke'e Natural History Museum, Charles Judd Pavilion, Kōke'e Lodge and one of the State Cabins.



Hui o Laka Offers Workshops at the C.C.C. Camp



Need an excuse to get away and spend a day at Kōke'e State Park?

Hui o Laka presents a roster of classes to use in the warmer months at Kōke'e. All classes take place at the Kōke'e Civilian Conservation Corps Camp on the hill above the Lodge and Museum. The classes and parking are limited so sign up early. Payment needs to be made a week before the classes to ensure we don't turn anyone away. We have some really great instructors to introduce and expand your love of this precious resource.

Celebrating Laka with Hula & Lei

Kumu Hula Ka'eo Bradford leads a series of three-monthly workshops at the Kōke'e Civilian Conservation Corps Camp above the Kōke'e Museum and Lodge, Hwy 550 above marker 15. Explore the relationship between hula, lei, and Laka the goddess of the forest. Each workshop features a style of lei making. In the afternoon, the opportunity is provided to learn a hula with all its nuances. Each month is a different hula special to our island. Workshop classes take place from 10am to 3pm and limited to twenty participants. There will be basic flowers and ferns available as well as plants at the CCC Camp. Please bring flowers and other plant materials for variety and ability to learn how to use them in lei making at home. Basic supplies are included in the \$45 fee for each class (Hui o Laka members \$35.) Each workshop offers different things to learn so all three are worth attending with a new hula and style of lei making or just attend one. Bring a bento or brown bag lunch.

LEI & HULA WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 11 – Lei Ku'i & Hula 'Auana – 10am to 3pm

Saturday, June 22 – Lei Wili & Hula 'Auana – 10am to 3pm

Saturday, July 13 – Lei Hili & Hula Kahiko – 10am to 3pm

Celebrate Spring Flowers with Lei Po'ō Making

Noted lei instructor and author, Elvrine Chow, will be sharing the opportunity to learn lei wili style of lei making from 10am to 1pm, May, 31 and June 2 at the Kōke'e Civilian Conservation Corps Camp above the Kōke'e Museum and Lodge, Hwy 550 above marker 15. Join us at one or both classes as you learn to make lei to wear on your head, either for yourself or someone special. This is a good opportunity to make a lei even if you never have or just want to enjoy the day at Kōke'e. The class will learn how to use introduced cool weather flowers such as fuchsia, hydrangea, agapanthus, gingers if they are in bloom, ferns and ti leaf found within the environs of the class site at Kōke'e. You are welcome to clip your own flowers or use what is provided. Class sizes are limited to fifteen participants with carpooling strongly suggested. Supplies are included in the \$50 fee for each class (Hui o Laka members \$ 40.) Bring scissors or clippers if you prefer your own tools and bring a brown bag lunch.

LEI WILI WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Friday, May 31 – Wili Lei Making – 10am to 1pm

Sunday, June 2 – Wili Lei Making – 10am to 1pm

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Please remember workshops are limited with payments needed to hold your reservation. Parking is limited and carpooling is suggested along with a jacket in case the weather changes. It is always advisable to dress in layers. Phone 808-335-9975 or email info@kokee.org for reservations or more information.

CALENDAR

Workshops

Saturday, May 11, 2024

Lei Ku'i & Hula 'Auana

10am to 3pm

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp.
\$45 (\$35 members). Reservations needed.

Friday, May 31

Wili Lei Making

10am to 1pm

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp.
\$50 (\$40 members). Reservations needed.

Sunday, June 2

Wili Lei Making

10am to 1pm

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp.
\$50 (\$40 members). Reservations needed.

Saturday, June 22

Lei Wili & Hula 'Auana

10am to 3pm

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp.
\$45 (\$35 members). Reservations needed.

Saturday, July 13

Lei Hili & Hula Kahiko

10am to 3pm

Civilian Conservation Corps Camp.
\$45 (\$35 members). Reservations needed.

November 3, 2024

Annual Meeting

Hui o Laka's 70th Anniversary
Members Only - Lunch Provided RSVP
Civilian Conservation Corps Camp

Kōke'e Museum Hours

Weekdays, 10:30 am - 3:30 pm

Weekends, 10:30 am-4:00 pm

A Trail Map is available outside on the front porch 24 hours a day to plan hikes. Group Tours of the Kōke'e Museum can be arranged in advance either earlier in the morning or after the museum closes depending on availability of staffing. Those just showing up may have to wait for entrance.

Keep up on the latest information at the Museum and Kōke'e on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/KokeeMuseumNew/>

Reasons to Become a Member

Members provide support and put a face to who we serve as a nonprofit. To focus on what our mission is and enhance it to the best of our ability has been the goal these past four years. This was due to the support of our members and staff and trustees working together to keep the fires burning during a rough time for all small businesses.

We share our patron and higher level members in this list covering memberships from December 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024. We apologize if we missed anyone or have duplicates.

Patron – Koa members

Melinda Walker
Captain Andy's Sailing
Adventures
Cathy Shanks
Jody Kjeldsen
Diane Armstrong DeLorenzo
Charles & Deborah Pratt
Jonny Wichman
Victoria Chipman
H. Peter & Kory King
Owen Moe
Tom & Olga Van Dis
Jessie Hill
E. Nakaya & C. Nakamine
Stephanie Mendez
Anna Karen Johnson
Colleen Wann
Juliet Moncreif
Mary & Binney Williamson
Gerda Faye
D. Cunningham
Heu'ionalani Wyeth
Ginger Saiki
Aria Marina Drummer
Thomas & Ashleigh Gay
Dr. Kapono Chong Hanssen
Chris & Devi Town
GNR Business Solutions
Otak Jump
Loree Sandoz-Sloggett
Audrey Valenciano
Thomas Nizo/Waimea Theatre
Sarah Quinn
Earthworks Pacific, Inc.
Lindsey & Michael Fritz

Patron Members – 'Iliahi

Wendy Wichman
Gaylord Wilcox
Sharee Anderson
Martha Yent
Mike & Colleen Faye
Tom Mendes

Patron Members - Kauila

Charles Wichman
Mark Baldwin / Waiawa
Holdings

Kate & Bert Bunnell
Chipper & Hau'oli Wichman

Patron Members – Lama

Michael Bill In Memory of
Sinclair Knudsen Bill

Endowment Fund

David Pratt

Unrestricted Donations

Tim & Jill Pratt in honor of
David & Carol Pratt
Charles & Deborah Pratt in
honor of Tim & Jill Pratt
Martha Yent
The Tabuchi Family

Capital Campaign Donations & Grants

David Pratt
Captain Andy's Sailing
Adventures
Tire Warehouse
E.H.W. Broadbent Foundation
S.W. Wilcox Trust
Waimakua Foundation -
Mary S. Rice
Thomas Reveley

Hui o Laka wishes to extend our condolences to the family of Aletha Goodwin Kaohi. She served on the Board of Trustees of Hui o Laka for many years as well as Board President. She was a guiding light to many in our community.

Also, we extend our aloha to the family of Kathy Valier, noted author and Hui o Laka board member for some years. Many of you have purchased the Kōke'e State Park Trail Map she created and her book about the Na Pali Coast is back in print.

KIUC to the Rescue

Voltage issues hit the Park Headquarters area on Monday, April 29. All the concessions and State Parks crew headquarters experienced flickering lights, battery backup clicking and other alarming issues in their offices. Kaua'i Island Utility Coop's crew showed their can-do attitude by diving into ancient park system generator building and power supply that provided electricity to the area prior to the new National Guard Station at Kalalau in the 1950s. The generator continued to serve as a backup and then taken off-line but the power to the facilities still passed through the meters located there. The repair was promised that night and it happened!



BECOME A MEMBER

- ☐ \$12 Maile Student
- ☐ \$25 Mokihana - Individual
- ☐ \$50 Hāpu'u - Family
- ☐ \$75 'Ōhi'a - Sustaining
- ☐ \$100 Koa - Patron
- ☐ \$250 'Iliahi - Patron
- ☐ \$500 Kauila - Patron
- ☐ \$1000 Lama - Patron

Donations

- ☐ Unrestricted
- ☐ Endowment Fund
- ☐ In honor/memory of

☐ Other (describe) _____

Fill out contact information so we can send a receipt for your tax records:

Name _____

Email _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone: _____

Newsletter will be sent by email.

Check ☐ if you prefer to have newsletter in print form, mailed to you.

Pay online at kokee.org or by personal check mailed to Hui o Laka, P.O. Box 100, Kekaha, Hawai'i 96752. Credit card payments can be made by phone. (808) 335-9975.