



Kōke'e Connections

Hui o Laka Membership Newsletter

SAVE THE DATE! Hui o Laka Annual Meeting

Come join us at our C.C.C. Camp 10am Saturday, November 28 for a morning of show and tell regarding Hui o Laka's past year of operation and see the vision for the next year. Come early, at 9am for refreshments and to socialize. Kokua Koke'e program director Brad Soria will be providing a tour of the nature trail after the meeting. We invite our members to visit the Koke'e Museum and see all the changes made over the past year by the museum committee and staff, most notably in the shop.

Termite Treatment

News flash! **Koke'e Museum will be closed November 8 to 9, 2015.** We've been waiting for some time for this really important event to happen. Koke'e does have termites and they've been infecting the old state parks buildings in the meadow. Although the altitude slows them down a bit compared to sea level, they still do steady damage on structures and their contents. Nearly all of them will be closed at some time between November 8 and 10th while Aloha Termite Co. tents each building. C.C.C. Camp will also be part of the project and half will be done one night and the other the next. Koke'e Lodge will also be treated. The dates are weather dependant.

Major 2015 Projects Supported by Grants and Donations

CCC Camp Restoration Project

\$26,000 Grant-in-Aid Capital Improvement from the State of Hawai'i

\$12,000 SW Wilcox Trust

\$10,000 Freeman Foundation

\$2,000 Waimakua Foundation

Kokua Koke'e Program

Funding 2015

Includes improvements to the Nature Trail and signage:

\$20,000 Hawaii Tourism Authority

\$2,000 Waimakua Foundation

\$2,000 John H. R. Plews

November 11, 2015

Aloha Andy!



The photograph above, taken by Mary Williamson, shows Andy Jasper and his wife Justine enjoying their lei including maile lau li'i and hydrangea with Wai Kuapahi.

One of the spark plugs in Koke'e Museum's re-energization has been HoL Trustee Andy Jasper. Originally from Cornwall, England, Andy was fulfilling some extraordinary tasks at National Tropical Botanical Garden [NTBG] when he accepted a position on Hui o Laka's board. Hui o Laka was lucky to benefit from his talent and energy as a trustee the past two years. He and his family are returning to Great Britain in December to head the Capital Investment Program at the Royal Horticultural Society. Hui o Laka Trustees honored him with a local-style tea at the CCC Camp at their last scheduled meeting in November.

Earlier this year, in January, Andy led Hui o Laka's trustees in a design charette for the Koke'e Museum. This followed a morning of shifting around the floor plan in the museum. It was his enthusiasm that broke down the barriers figuratively and literally. For the museum, it was a radical change that left many repeat visitors and even the staff a bit stunned. It has proven to be a good first step. It was only the beginning.

In August, Andy again spearheaded a major start in a design idea that was born in the January charrette. A gateway was created to the *Nature Trail* behind the museum with the help of staff from HoL, the State Parks crew, and NTBG. Volunteers included trustees, a family from Kekaha doing a service project, and Andy's family. There were jobs for all ages. When they were done, the beginnings of an outdoor *Forest Discovery Zone* were the result. So when you visit Koke'e museum, don't forget to look behind the museum too!

A hui hou Andy and best wishes for the Jasper family on their new adventure!

Annual Holiday Wreath Making Workshop

Our eagerly awaited wreath making workshop takes place Saturday, December 5 at 10am. We check-in at Koke'e Museum and then go out to collect plant materials. Wear appropriate clothing. We have gloves and some clippers. Please bring your own if you prefer tools you are used to. If you have decorations you wish to use, bring those as well. After lunch the real fun begins as HoL volunteers show how to make a wreath and help you along the way with your own project. The cost is \$25 for the workshop and you must be a current HoL member. You can go on our website: kokee.org or pay

\$3,000 SW Wilcox Trust
Koke'e Museum Exhibits
 \$10,000 Grant-in-Aid Operations
 from the State of Hawai'i
 \$5,000 SW Wilcox Trust
 \$2,250 Waimakua Foundation
Banana Poka
 \$8,000 HTA - Kau 'i County CPEP
 Program
Eo e Emalani i Alaka'i
 \$15,000 HTA - Kaua'i County CPEP
 Program
 \$13,325 Kekaha Host Community
 Benefits Program
Endowment Fund
 \$1,500 Joan Pratt
Unrestricted Donations
Over \$1000
 \$5,000 EHW Broadbent Foundation
 \$6,000 Joan Pratt (not including
 donations from her friends and
 family in her name)

Improved Communications

New state-of-the-art internet
 phones were installed in Hui o
 Laka's Administration Office by
 Hawaiian Telcom. It was a happy
 day when we took down the
 satellite dish internet system that
 wasn't too much faster than the
 old dial-up. The new office phone
 extensions are listed on our
 website. The museum can be
 reached at the old number, **(808)
 335-9975** extension "0" or by
 calling direct at **(808) 335-3353**. If
 you're paying by credit card for
 camp reservations, shop
 merchandise by phone, or
 membership please call the shop
 direct as they have the credit card
 machine.

CCC Camp Reservations - ext 1
Admin:
 Michelle Hookano - ext 2
Membership:
 Rosalind Thompson - ext 3
Director:
 Christine Faye - ext 4

Go GREEN!

No, it's not our favorite team. Hui
 o Laka exemplifies care for the
 environment and we're trying to
 convert our membership
 communications to electronic
 sendings. It saves us a large amount
 of valuable money and our
 members can receive shorter and
 more frequent mailings. We've had
 a rough start this year with many
 changes including rebuilding our
 membership database. Due to
 miscommunications, some of you
 received electronic newsletters and
 those with no email contacts didn't
 receive any. It still doesn't work as
 well as we would like it, but we
 have a much better handle on the
 lists. This letter is going out by
 email and mail to make sure we
 find all of you. Do let us know, at
info@kokee.org if you do or don't
 want eletters. Please don't
 hesitate in contacting us with any

that day in the Gift Shop. If you are unsure of your status please email:
rosalindthompson@kokee.org.



Kupuna Make Their Mark on the 2015 Eo e Emalani

Right: Kupuna arrive in style aboard an Akita School Bus. As they leave, one of the kumu, Charlani Kalama greets one of the bus riders, a former dancer and friend of her mother's. Left: "Queen" Nalani Brun dances for the audience before a large crowd in Kanaloahuluhulu Meadow. Check out Koke'e Museum's [Facebook](#) page for more photographs.

The 2015 Eo e Emalani i Alaka'i was a resounding success. Not because the crowd was large or that parking was gone before 11am or even that there were surprise performances by kumu in the audience. It was because of an Akita school bus full of kupuna from Anahola to Kekaha that arrived via funding from Kekaha Host Community Benefits funding. Without the shuttle, they wouldn't have enjoyed the day at Koke'e as few drive anymore. A local agency, Alu Like, Inc., assisted Hui o Laka with this experiment and suggested the Kaua'i Bus connection for the kupuna from the eastside of the island. Alu Like seniors make up a large number of our volunteers for the day.

Hui o Laka learned a lot about the shuttle service through surveys. Overwhelmingly, they wanted to be at Koke'e for the beginning of the event at 10am and depart about 1pm. Very few lasted to the last shuttle at 4pm. We also surveyed the general audience and asked them about shuttling next year. There seems to be a strong interest but, unfortunately, the Kaua'i Bus does not provide service to Koke'e. So Hui o Laka would have to rent a bus. The least expensive option is a school bus at roughly half the cost of an air-conditioned tour bus. Many of those surveyed were willing to pay \$5, a fraction of the \$30 cost for a school bus. With the extremely limited parking, a shuttle is the only option for the community to really take advantage of this really wonderful event in the future. We can consider special parking areas for van or bus car-pooling. Anyone having solutions for shuttling, please email director@kokee.org or call Hui o Laka at (808) 335-9975 ext 4 with your ideas.

Museum News



If you are enjoying the day at Koke'e, don't forget to visit Koke'e Museum. As many of you know, we've been making changes. Rodney Taketa and Bradley Soria made us some rustic chairs carved out of the 1935 vintage Cyprus trees recently felled near the Ranger's Station. In the works is a konane board carved into an extremely large stump. Recycle and reuse!

Most of the lights in the museum have been switched out for LED spot lights. Besides saving energy and lasting much longer than fluorescent bulbs, there are no dangerous UV light emissions on our taxidermy and artwork. They are cool to the touch, have no mercury in them, and made of plastic so less chance of glass shattering when working with them.

Outside, on the Museum's back lawn are some new features in the works for a Forest Discovery Zone, a mix of play and learning for our visiting families. Trustee Andy Jaspas brought his family and several of his coworkers from NTBG to assist at the workday on August 29. Come take your selfies at the new tree gateway to the Nature Trail. Staffer Alby Schraepfer has been busy hatching chickens and other birds made out of tires - thanks to Sharron

omissions and corrections. Hui o Laka really values its members.

We have been updating our [website](#) and have a very lively [Facebook](#) page

Looking Forward

2016 will see a number of changes in the exhibits at Koke'e Museum. Grants have been written, with more to follow, to fund new interpretive plans to make your visit to Koke'e more rewarding. We take our role in providing hospitality and providing learning resources for Koke'e State Park seriously. The beginning of that change occurred in 2015 - a new plan - and some rudimentary blocking in of what will take place in 2016 for outdoor displays and integration of the *Nature Trail*, Laka's forest, into the interpretation. Tours of the *Nature Trail* are under development as well as cultural exhibits.

The CCC Camp's development as a forest camp retreat and learning experience has been underway. Those ideas will start to crystallize into concrete activities and programs into 2016 and beyond.

We look forward to seeing more of our members in the coming year. It is your support that gives us the heart to keep growing.

Hui o Laka - Koke'e Museum
P.O. Box 100.Kekaha.HI.96752

Weber at Tire Warehouse Kaua'i. It will take a while for all the ideas to come to fruition so take a peek when you're visiting to see our progress.

The gift shop has been very busy! Our hard work is paying off. We have a number of new books in along with must-haves for Hawaiiana book collectors. There is a nice range of Koke'e and Waimea Canyon State Park branded items for sale now including a great reusable shopping bag with colorful photos of our favorite place! A new line of handcrafted gold and silver filled wire jewelry, some embellished with fresh water pearls, is made by Donna Cockett and a hit with visitors.

The new trail map on the porch was installed in late May and seems to be working out quite well.

Stay at the CCC Camp & Join in on a Service Project



It was a busy summer season for the historic camp. Koke'e Resource Conservation Program and our own Kokua Koke'e Program kept mainland groups along with local church, school, and college program participants busy weeding and trimming back invasive plants on Koke'e trails.

This October we hosted the combined Rotary Clubs of Kaua'i

as they put on a retreat for their youth program.

We've upgraded our two cottages and are catching up with some appliance maintenance issues. This winter, some large painting projects are planned including the wheelchair ramps and porches when we get a sunny spell.

Shop Point of Sales

We are migrating to a new system at the end of November into December so please have patience as the staff will be training and relearning their sales tasks. Luckily the system is now set up in the HoL office and we are trying to work out the bugs prior to installation in the museum. This is all to make shopping in the future at Koke'e Museum a better experience. Technology is always a struggle at Koke'e State Park due to its remoteness. This is only possible due to the new telephone-internet system that now links HoL office to the 21st century.