KŌKE'E NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Kōke'e Connections

Hui o Laka Membership Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2018

Sad News

Marsha Erickson the former Executive Director of Hui o Laka for 27 years passed away in Hilo, Hawai'i on November 12, 2018. She touched so many, including those that worked, studied, and played in Kōke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks were she resided.

During her tenure with Hui o Laka from 1987 through 2013, the organization substantially grew from just supporting a little museum in the forest. Marsha increased the size of the museum, adding on a large room for new exhibits and expanded the Museum Shop to support the many new programs that she sparked along the way: Forest Wonder Walks, Kōkua Kōke'e and more. With the expansion of programs, space was needed, and she found it by taking on the then derelict Kōke'e Civilian Conservation Corps Camp in 1990. The administration building became headquarters for Hui o Laka. Over the years, she found money and volunteers to make the many small and large improvements on the rest of the eight buildings. Then there were the festivals, Eō e Emalani i Alaka'i and Banana Poka RoundUp. Under her leadership, both were nurtured by Hui o Laka and the community as annual events and in their 30th years now.

Leaving Kaua'i in 2013, she relocated back to Volcano, Hawai'i and lived in her beloved forest, near her daughter and grandchildren. Marsha was a devoted SGI Buddhist and her faith kept her strong and according to family members, at peace with all at the end. Services will be held at a later date, sometime in early 2019. Letters of condolence can be sent to her family at P.O. Box 1200, Volcano, HI 96785.

The photo of Marsha was part of a larger group shot by Kay Koike when she attended her very last Emalani in 2014.

WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS FOR STATE PARKS

The DLNR Division of State Parks has received grant money to install water bottle filling stations in 15 state parks over the next three years. The goal of the project -- funded by a $100,396 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Marine Debris Program -- is to reduce the use of single-use plastic water bottles which can become marine debris and harm Hawaii's environment and marine life.

Park visitors will be encouraged to bring their refillable water bottles to the parks where they can be filled when hiking, walking, picnicking, sight-seeing, or playing sports. Many of these water bottle filling stations will replace existing water fountains at park restrooms and pavilions so minimal disturbance is anticipated.

The project also includes interpretive signs, creation of an educational video, social media and web posts and brochures about the harmful impacts of marine debris and what people can do to help reduce debris created in Hawai'i.

There currently is only one state park filling station and it's located at Diamond Head State Monument. This station is heavily used by those hiking the trail to the summit of the crater and indicates the value of expanding these stations to other parks.

CALENDAR

Saturday, December 8, 2018

WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

10am to 2pm. Meet at Museum to check-in. $10 for materials. (Non-members $25) Bring decorations to personalize your wreath plus clippers and any other tools you prefer to use. Bring own bag lunch.

Sunday, May 26, 2019

BANANA POKA ROUNDUP

10am to 4pm. Environmental Fair with a family twist. Meet agencies and people working to preserve our precious environment.

Saturday, October 12, 2019

Eō e Emalani i Alaka'i

9am to 4pm. Queen enters the Meadow at 11am. No Admission. Limited parking. Sponsored in part by Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Thanksgiving is not just a Day

We, here at Hui o Laka, are thankful for the multitude of support from our members, business community and the many inviduals that volunteer their time and provide financial support for operations and festivals.

We are grateful for our hardworking staff that keeps our day to day operation running smoothly even in the most chaotic of times. We also are lucky to have great community members serving on the Board of Trustees. As we move into the holidays we wish all of you out there a wonderful season of health and happiness.

Hui o Laka‘s operations are open 365 days a year and the staff has requested closing the museum an hour early, at 3pm, so that they can enjoy their family at this time. Those days will be Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year‘s Eve.

Membership

Membership is very important to our organization. Here we gratefully acknowledge memberships at the Patron Level or higher from August 1 to October 31, 2018

Patron Members
Thomas King, Jr.
Kaua‘i Camper – the Tjarks
Leia Makaneole
Terry Mann
Pat Englehard
Sabra Kauka
Janet Downey
Sue Boynton
Nelson Kaai
Dean & Matt Jamieson
Lillo Crain Family
Billi Smith
Teresa Young
Laurie Nakama
Alan & Susie Faye
Cheryl & Michael Shintani
Richard Shaw
Ann Kennedy
Elizabeth Piccard
In Honor of Joan Pratt‘s Birthday
Sarah Quinn
Melinda Walker

If you don‘t see you name here or find it misspelled, let us know. The cut off date was October 31 for this newsletter.

Emalani Festival 2018

Cash Sponsors totalling $11,000
Kilohana Sponsors
Hawai‘i Tourism Authority
County of Kaua‘i – Kaua‘i Festivals

New Planting

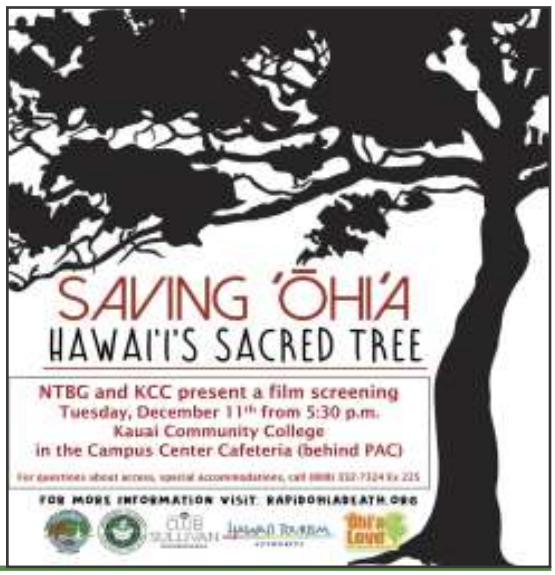
Hālau Ka Waikahe Lani Mālie held their Hō‘ike at the CCC Camp. After things settled at the end of the day, Blaine Kia was honored with the planting of an ‘ōhia tree in the Kumu Garden. Hālau Ka Waikahe Lani Mālie‘s kumu La‘amea Almeida and Blaine‘s family participating in the planting. It was a very emotional and beautiful ceremony. There are now two ‘ōhia trees. Many thanks to the Nature Conservancy for the trees.

Kōke‘e Resource Conservation Program has also recently added more plants to the Nature Trail. With the recent deaths of serval koa trees, the trail has changed as does everything in nature.

DLNR State Parks
EHW Broadbent Foundation
Mr & Mrs Thomas Reveley
D.R. Horton
Island Art & Screen Printing
Tire Warehouse Kaua‘i
Lehua Makanoe Sponsors
Bank of Hawai‘i
First Hawaiian Bank
HD Construction
Jack Harter Helicopters
KLA Landscape Architecture Planning
Kukui‘ula Properties – South Shore Kaua‘i
Napa – PS&D
Punzal Vision
Punua Insurance Co.
Jim & Sylvia Thacker
Waiawa Holdings – Eric Knudsen Trust
Yamaguchi Bus Service
Pohaku Hula Sponsors
Coldwell Banker- Turtle Cove Realty
Cushnie Construction Company
Honolulu Industrial Coatings
Kaua‘i Nursery & Landscaping
Koenig Insurance
Matson Navigation Company
Waineke Sponsors
Aqua Engineers
Aunty Lilikoi
Benevity Community Impact Fund
Coldwell Banker - Bali Hai Realty
Curtis E Law
Hawai‘i Care & Cleaning
Island Business & Commercial Brokerage
Kaua‘i Realty
Kuhio Auto Group
M&H Painting
Oberg & Free CPA

How to Find Us!

By Phone:
Hui o Laka business office and CCC Camp Reservations 808-335-9975
Kōke‘e Museum (direct) 808-335-3353
Email: info@kokee.org
Web: www.kokee.org
Facebook: Kokee Museum Now!



It is with deep appreciation that we acknowledge all those that made our event a special one.

30TH ANNIVERSARY EŌ E EMALANI I ALAKA'I

Eō e Emalani i Alaka'i for 2018 was the largest ever. The weather was perfect; a sunny day. We worked really hard this year to improve the financial aspects of the festival and 33 cash sponsors stepped in to help Hui o Laka put this on. We've listed them on page 2. They represent a very broad spectrum of our business community. There were also 33 donors to the silent auction which is equally important in our fundraising efforts to support the festival. They are listed on this page. If you do business or patronize our sponsors, please thank them for their support. We also listed our volunteers – not all of them individually, but you can see it takes a community to host an event of this size. We also would like to acknowledge our major funder the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Silent Auction Donors

Anaina Hou Community Park
Arius Hopman
Banana Patch Studio
Bernardo Lizarrage
Diane Wry
Duke's Canoe Club
Eating House 1849
Frank Hay
Laurie Nakama
Sharron Weber
Hopaco Office Supply
Jo2 Restaurant
Kaua'i Backcountry Adventures
Kaua'i Beach Resort
Kaua'i Beer Company
Kaua'i Coffee Company
Kaua'i Fine Arts
Kaua'i Marriott Beach Resort
Kōke'e Natural History Museum
Kōke'e Resource Conservation Program
Kaua'i Sea Tours
Kaua'i Shores Resort
Kela's Glass
Kōloa Rum Company
Lava Lava Beach Club
Lush Salon
Mark & Nancy White
Mike Teruya
Patrice Pendarvis
Po'ipu Bay Golf Club
Ray Nitta
Reyn Spooner
Robin McCoy
Sue Boynton
Westin Princeville Ocean Resort Villas

Volunteers, In-kind Donors

Lorna Ouderkirk
Yvonne Hosaka
Raymond Duarte Da Sound Guy
Hui o Laka Trustees & Staff
Puni Patrick's The Kupuna Klub
Major Aguilar & the Waimea High School Jr. ROTC Students
Garden Island Security
Garden Isle Portable Toilets
Kuapahi 'Ohana
Bucasas 'Ohana
Ayau 'Ohana
Ventures Associates
DLNR-DOCARE
DLNR-Koke'e State Park Crew
Bertram Almeida
American Medical Response
Flowers Forever
The Blue Orchid
Lappert's, Inc.
Walmart
Chucky Boy & Pammy Chock
Safeway Kaua'i
Big Save / Times Waimea
Ishihara Market
Dupont Pioneer Kaua'i
KONG Radio Group
This Week Kaua'i
Kaua'i Kookie Company
Printing Services Corp.
Kay Koike
Cheryl & Michael Shintani
Waimea Plantation Cottages
Rita Peeters & Rob Zelkovsky
Mike Teruya
Dale Rosenfeld
Dickie Chang/Bruce Smalling
Fujita & Miura Public Relations
Fundraisers Lorraine Wichman, Sandy Howatt, Christine Matsumoto, Earl Hunter, Elizabeth Piccard and more.
Shirley Simbre-Medeiros
Alu Like Kupuna
Tanaka's Plumbing
Sabra Kauka & her students

If we missed your name, let us know.

Photographs by Kay Koike. This year, we had one hālau from Japan and one from New York joining in this special commemorative event honoring Queen Emma.

Shopping

We've introduced some new shelving into the museum shop to better display the covers of our books and other offerings. The displays are fully stocked with short and long sleeve t-shirts and sweatshirts. We've seen a lot of our members and other old friends shopping for the holidays. What is hot for the Christmas season? Tea towels! Perfect for almost any household and there are plenty of styles and designs to choose from. We also have a great selection of local crafts, Christmas ornaments, jewelry, wooden puzzles, Hawaiiana books, and lots of colorful and instructive children's books.

JR. ROTC Heros

The Waimea High School Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps [ROTC] came to work and stayed at the CCC Camp on October 4-5. About 40 young women and men organized themselves into three groups and spread out to get projects done at the museum, camp, and site preparation for Emalani. In the morning, the bunkhouse bathrooms got a good cleaning, the hydrangeas pruned back, and the firebreak area on the backside of the camp was cleared out. After lunch the kids cleaned up around the museum and then hit the nature trail for a sweep. A group, under our supervision, made the horse trail for the Emalani Festival. It was a major day of hard work. One of the senior girls organized the whole work day! She'll be a major leader someday.

Hui o Laka is grateful that our CCC Camp has been adopted by such a wonderful program moulding outstanding youth.

Increased Koke'e Traffic

We've had some incredible challenges since the Island's Hanalei to Hā'ena corridor was closed off to nonresidential traffic in April. Strides have been made in road repairs (shown right), but it is many months before reopening the highway. Kōke'e, along with all the other state parks have felt the impact of concentrated visitors. The Museum has seen nearly 60 to 100 more people a day in addition to what used to be the normal traffic counts of 150-200 people. If our staff has at times been a little harried, it is because of the sheer number of people they are trying to assist. The trails and parking areas are also heavily impacted and any of you driving through the park corridor know how crazy the parking is. Visitors park in the roads and cross the road without thought to visibility for through traffic. Please go slow and be alert when driving through the areas were all the canyon lookouts are as the pedestrians aren't paying attention.

Many of those banned from the Kalālau Trail are looking for challenging trail conditions and going out in poor conditions and dangerous ridges because they see others doing it on social media. DLNR State Parks has closed several trails years ago, yet they continue to attract people. Even the roadside canyon lookouts are seeing very risky behavior. Guardrails seem to only be there to climb over and little trails go up the sheer cliffs. There have been quite a few emergency situations as a result and so far, no deaths. Visitors really don't understand how different Kaua'i's very old volcanic rocks and soils are from continents and, especially, how far emergency help is both in distance and time.

Hui o Laka Membership Meeting

The Annual Membership Meeting was held on September 9th at the CCC Camp. As a bonding activity, maps of the residential lots were shared to brainstorm possible names of roads for the Kōke'e camps. The increasing need for formal physical addresses to acquire services is becoming a real issue. Recently the Kōke'e Museum was denied service by American Express because of this issue. All of the residences and businesses located in Kōke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks have relied on their tax key numbers and some fudging, but new laws have taken effect. Shown here are trustees and members pouring over county tax maps, a little out of date, to see if roads are still correct and what should be the likely names using place names of the area. Many stories were told.

The result of the election for trustees is that the same trustees and officers will be serving for 2018-2019. Billi Smith, president; Susan Boynton, vice president; Frank O. Hay, Treasurer; Kay S. Koike, Secretary; Trustees: Pam Chock, Earl Hunter, Myranda Kuapahi, Elizabeth Piccard, and Lorraine Wichman.