



Mālama Mānoa Newsletter

Vol. 19, No. 2
November 2011

Our Mission is to promote our community, celebrate our cultural diversity and heritage, & preserve, protect and enhance the special qualities of historic Mānoa Valley.

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Mālama Mānoa
P.O. Box 61961
Honolulu HI 96839



Mānoa Chinese Cemetery- Is it REALLY haunted?

Spend an autumn evening with Mālama Mānoa exploring this historic cemetery and hearing local ghost stories.

Robert Wong, president of the Lin Yee Chung Association, will begin by describing the cemetery's beginnings, architecture and tradition of ancestral worship.

Historian Nanette Napoleon will share some of the spooky stories she has collected over the past 25 years of studying Hawai'i's graveyards.

Please join us on November 9th at twilight at the Lin Yee Chung Memorial Hall on East Mānoa road for refreshments and a bit of business. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes and bring a flashlight to help as we proceed across the street.

Bwahahahaha!

Mālama Mānoa

Annual Membership Meeting Community Program

Wednesday, November 9, 2011
6:30 p.m.
Mānoa Chinese Cemetery

featuring

Robert Wong
President,
Lin Yee Chung Association
and
Nanette Naioma Napoleon
Graveyard Historian + Storyteller

Meet at
Lin Yee Chung Memorial Hall
3430 E. Mānoa Road
Brick building makai of
the Pākanu Street
cemetery entrance

Bring a flashlight and courage and
wear walking shoes



Don't miss these other events!

Mānoa Stream Cleaning

Saturday, November 12, 10:00 am
Meet at Woodlawn Bridge

Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 10, 2011
Meet at Noelani School

See articles on page 7 for details.

Message From the President

by Kim Ku'ulei Birnie

Aloha mai kākou,

A long-time Mānoa resident left her home to her family, who spent six months and tens of thousands of dollars renovating the beautiful craftsman style home with a bluestone fireplace and shingled siding. The house sold immediately; two weeks later, the house was razed.



The demolished house was built in 1936, so it may have qualified for an historic home designation. In fact, several Mānoa homes built in the 1920s and '30s have been demolished over the past four months. Let us harness the winds of change to educate and inform communities of the value of historic preservation. If you know of a structure in the valley that is worth preserving, there is a process to recognize historic homes, including tax incentives to enable such efforts that are described more fully on page 5.

Our biannual historic walk through Mānoa's College Hill area in May drew the largest attendance ever. See photos on page four.

Mālama Mānoa had an opportunity this summer to see firsthand how the water we've been cleaning for more than ten years is put to use at Kānewai. Just below the Dole Street bridge, the stream is diverted to the lo'i where it feeds several kalo patches before returning back to the stream.

We've also met some new neighbors recently. Living Life Source Foundation will bring neighbors together when it plants fruits and vegetables in some unused lots on the Wa'ahila side of the valley that will be available to the greater community.

We'll be participating in the Fall Fair at Mānoa District Park as well as the annual Mānoa Christmas Parade. And we're preparing for the 1,000 Tree Giveaway in April 2012.

Please join us!

*He Kākea, ka makani
kulakula'i kauhale o Mānoa.*

It is the *Kākea*, the wind that pushes over the houses of *Mānoa*. The *Kākea* is the strongest wind of *Mānoa* valley.

Ōlelo No'eau #664

Mānoa Neighborhoods— Our July Program Opportunities and Challenges

Anyone who lives in Mānoa or just drives through knows it is a very special place. It is more than the historic homes and other structures. It is the lushness of the valley, its shady streets, the meandering Mānoa Stream and the spectacular vistas of the valley walls that frame and cradle our valley. Most importantly it is its people, the sense of place and the feeling of community. Very few places on O'ahu still retain this sense of community. This is why our General Meeting on July 13, 2011 was such a success with over 70 attendees.

The meeting began with a visual presentation of Mānoa Valley in the late 1800s through the pre-statehood era which was compiled by board member Lori Arizumi. This was followed by architect Michael Leineweber's illustrations of urbanization trends, and the valley as it looks today. Michael then offered some best practices in planning and civil engineering designed to inspire residents to maintain a livable and beautiful community that is compatible with change. Examples of street design, walls and fences, and underground utilities were featured.

Michael and his wife, architect Spencer

Leineweber, have been longtime members and energetic supporters of Mālama Mānoa. Together they have painstakingly restored two historic homes in Mānoa.

Mahalo, too, to Duane Preble for sharing his slides of places and structures that enhanced this presentation. Ideas in creating an urban village community inspired conversation and, we hope, action. We cannot stop change and we all contribute to it. We can, however, consciously decide to improve upon the direction we are going in our valley. Let us know what you'd like to know more about Mānoa Valley!

Our Annual Autumn Appeal

Ola i ka wai a ka ʻōpua. Rain gives life.

A membership organization without dues, Mālama Mānoa has always relied upon your support to carry out our mission in preservation, conservation and community building. We do so now.

Mālama Mānoa is often called upon to comment on preservation initiatives that impact homeowners and communities statewide. We are advocates of parks and open spaces, greening our neighborhoods, and smart urban design. And throughout the year, we create opportunities to honor and commune with our friends, neighbors, businesses and agencies with whom we interact everyday, as we all learn a little more about the place we call Mānoa.

We welcome you to our programs and events. We welcome your involvement and your expertise. We are always grateful for your donations that enable us to keep doing the good work. You will soon receive a request for contributions in the mail. Mahalo nui for whatever you can give!

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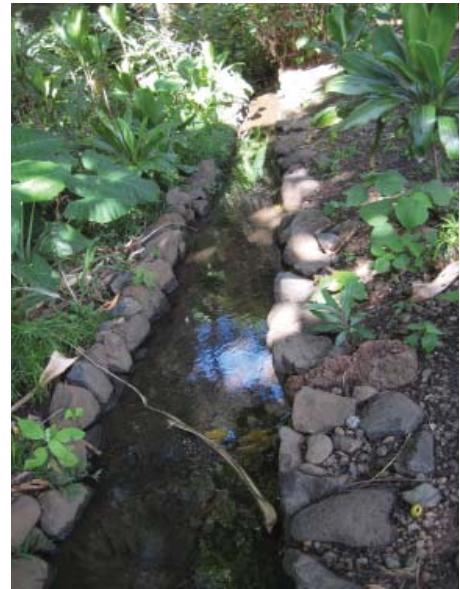
Wahi Pana `o Mānoa – Storied Places of Mānoa

KANEWAII



Above: Now part of the *Hawai‘inuiākea*, Hawaiian School of Knowledge at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, *Ka Papa Lo‘i o Kānewai* now serves as an interactive classroom.

Photo courtesy of Mailelauli`i Neff



Above: Stream cleaning efforts up the valley help to provide clean water to maintain the lo‘i. Photo by Kim Ku‘ulei Birnie.

Where the Mānoa Stream emerges from the valley, near the UH dormitories and the Dole Street bridge, is an area called Kānewai, water of Kāne. These healing waters are attributed to a visit by the deities Kāne and Kanaloa, who wandered into Mō‘ili‘ili in search of cool refreshment after spending a day at the beach in Kahala. Kāne stuck his ko‘oko‘o, walking stick, into the ground releasing a bubbling spring.

Another story describes fish eavesdropping from nearby underground passageways near fishermen who talked about their plans for the day. These fish swam back to the ocean, spreading the word and thwarting the plans of gabby fishermen.

In the 15th century, Chief Kalamakua, a farmer known for the construction of “pondfields,” installed the system of ‘auwai, irrigation ditches, to divert water from Mānoa Stream to rich agricultural fields. These were established throughout upper Mānoa valley to Kānewai.

At the time of the 1848 Mahele, the Kānewai area was enveloped into the largest land award in the Mānoa ‘ahupua‘a to its then caretaker, Kaleihana. Upon Kaleihana’s death, the land reverted to the royal family where it remained until Pauahi’s death in 1884, then becoming part of Bishop Estate.



Above: Several members of Mālama Mānoa and their families visited the lo‘i in July. An hour earlier, we were cleaning the stream up mauka. Photos above and below by Kim Ku‘ulei Birnie.

In 1980, several Hawaiian studies and language students at the university rediscovered the abandoned ‘auwai, and with the guidance of kūpuna such as Harry Kūnihi Mitchell, kalo was planted, the ‘auwai were restored, and the lo‘i was revived. A traditional halau was constructed that is used today.

Each first Saturday families, students and the greater community are invited to help out at the lo‘i, but you will learn and have fun, too. To kōkua, e-mail:

kanewai@hawaii.edu.



Historic Mānoa Walking Tour

Pu`u o Mānoa, Rocky Hill

Photos by George Waialeale and Jeremy Lam

More than 700 historic home buffs attended the 2011 Historic Mānoa Walking Tour earlier this year. Stories of Rocky Hill, McKinley Street, Vancouver Drive, Ha`ena Drive and Kakela Drive were enthusiastically recalled and retold by docents and visitors alike. Historical anecdotes were displayed on signs at different points along the two-mile route, and visitors were invited into eight homes.

The area had simple beginnings as the upper pasture of Punahoa School. Through proper stewardship, the homes and streetscape of McKinley Street and Kakela Drive have changed little from the original 1927 auction and subsequent construction of homes. Craftsman, Colonial and Cottage style homes still abound in this historic enclave.

With so many houses being razed to make room for larger structures, the biannual historic walking tour is an opportunity to showcase the Mānoa homes and their stories, and congratulate preservation efforts whenever we can.



It takes a community—just some of the 100+ volunteers who made our tour happen.



Visitors entering first home on the tour.

Mahalo nui to the homeowners who opened their homes to the community. Thank you to all the residents on and near the route who were impacted by the historic walk that morning of May 1. We're grateful to the 100+ volunteers who served as registrars, monitors, docents, set-up and clean-up crew, and so much more. Congratulations to Chairperson Linda LeGrande and her entire crew for elevating this unique event to one that attracts participants from around the island.

Mālama Mānoa presents this event every two years in a different historic neighborhood in the valley. The next historic walk will take place in the Spring of 2013. Details should be available in late 2012.

CORRECTION:

The 2011 Historic Mānoa Walking Tour booklet provided descriptions of more than thirty houses on the route. The Antone Tavares of 2110 Damon Street (pages 18-19) was, in fact, not the same Antone F. Tavares, former territorial senator from Maui.



Historic interior with lovely table setting.



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This beautifully maintained home was built in 1913.

Historic Residential Property Tax Exemption Amended

In June, the City & County of Honolulu amended its property tax exemption for historic homes. Mālama Mānoa joined Historic Hawai'i Foundation and others to testify in support of the preservation program, the amendments to which were eventually approved.

First enacted in the 1980s, the City's program supports historic preservation through tax relief. Owners of historic properties that meet certain criteria and conditions are offered exemption from real property tax. If the owner's petition is approved, and if the homeowner is compliant with the conditions, the annual property tax bill is reduced to the annual minimum amount rather than being based on the assessed value and related tax rate.

The tax exemption program allows homeowners some financial relief in the face of economic pressure to demolish, subdivide, redevelop or otherwise destroy historic properties.

Recent amendments provide new clarity, transparency and improved enforcement. The revisions were largely focused on ensuring that the public benefit is maintained:

- Definition and proof of visual access from a public way;
- Definition, proof and communication of alternative visual visitation 12 days/year if the property is not visible from a public way;
- Standards for maintenance, repair and condition;
- Specifications for the historic plaque or sign.

NOTICE

Mālama Mānoa
is updating its records

Mahalo for your interest in Mālama Mānoa news and updates.
If, for any reason, you wish to be removed from the mailing list, please e-mail us at

info@malamamanoa.org.

MAHALO

There are several wider benefits for the community, including: employment and economic development, supporting skilled trades and construction for the maintenance and repair of existing homes; environmental sustainability; retaining existing materials and embedded energy; reducing waste to the landfill; and using fewer raw materials.

By supporting homeowners who are committed to consistently preserving, maintaining and repairing these significant resources, the City benefits by having its history retained and made available for all to find enjoyment, inspiration and education about the community and its history. □

Based with permission on an article that originally appeared in Historic Hawai'i Newsletter, September 2011. More information is posted to:
www.historichawaii.org.

Preserving Our Historic Homes

Just as our natural resources may become endangered, so too can our historic resources.

Mānoa is fortunate to have one of the largest concentrations of architecturally significant historic houses in the state of Hawai'i. But like many species of our flora and fauna, many unique and beautiful historic Mānoa houses are endangered.

The pressures on historic homes are great. Termites and salt air pale in comparison to the greater threats of insensitive renovation or demolition that erase these storied architectural beauties that have given shelter to generations of families, and their neighbors and visitors.

As an organization, Mālama Mānoa is committed to the conservation, preservation, and community of this valley that we know and care for. We encourage homeowners to learn about and use the preservation programs that will assist them: nominate the site to the Hawai'i Register of Historic Places; follow the preservation standards to preserve its integrity; consider using preservation easements to ensure that future owners also understand and embrace this kuleana; apply for the tax breaks that help make these stewardship responsibilities affordable.

The more we can promote an awareness and appreciation for the presence of historic Mānoa homes, the better chance we have of preserving our remaining architectural treasures. □



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LYON IN SUMMER GALA

With the theme of *Ulu a wehi* (to grow and flourish), ‘Lyon in Summer’ was held in July as a fundraiser for the Harold L. Lyon Arboretum. The Arboretum parking lot was transformed for this special event with billowing white tents, beautifully laid tables and stunning plant decorations. The Lyon Arboretum Association—the Arboretum’s fundraising arm—arranged a memorable evening, complete with music by the trio of Aaron Mahi, Martin Pahinui and George Kuo, dinner featuring locally grown food, and a silent auction. Up for bid were handcrafted items, beautiful flower and plant arrangements from the Arboretum grounds, and numerous indigenous plants, including a seven-foot tall sandalwood tree.

Nestled in the back of Mānoa Valley, the University of Hawai‘i Lyon Arboretum helps filter the water of Mānoa Stream and cool the breezes that blow mauka to makai through our beautiful valley. The Arboretum’s

collections include over 5,000 taxa of native, Hawaiian cultural, tropical and rare trees and plants.

Mālama Mānoa worked hard with the Arboretum in 2005 and 2006 to keep it operating. Since then the institution has come a long way, obtaining over \$3 million in funding and grants, upgrades and repairs and hiring a dynamic new director, Dr. Christopher Dunn.

Proceeds from ‘Lyon in Summer’ help support the Arboretum’s ongoing research and educational programs, including the maintenance of the collection of Hawaiian endangered plant species and year-round educational activities for adults and children.

Held under blasting trade winds and the famous misting Mānoa rain, ‘Lyon in Summer’ celebrated all things Mānoa and brought everyone together as a community to celebrate one of the very special places in our valley. □

*Photos of Lyon Arboretum Gala by Donna Ho
Photo of Taiko Drummers by George Waialeale*



Above: Enjoying the party, Mei Lan Dunn; Trudie Taylor, Lyon Arboretum Association (LAA) President; Diana Snyder, LAA Board Member; and Christopher Dunn, Director, Lyon Arboretum. Below: Volunteers preparing *nā lei*.



Mānoa's Own Koganji Temple Bon Dance Rated "Best"!



In Japanese Buddhism, Obon, or just Bon, is a 500-year-old custom remembering the ancestors and appreciating their sacrifices. Activities include family reunions, cleaning of family graves, feasting and dancing. Obon Festivals can be found in Buddhist temples throughout Hawai‘i during the summer. The Koganji Temple on Oahu Avenue has hosted Bon Dances since 1986, and this past August thousands of participants flocked to the Temple for the celebration.

“We’ve lived in Mānoa for many years and have taken our twin grandchildren to several bon dances around town,

and our family agrees that Mānoa has the best bon dance right here in the valley...at the Koganji Temple!” declares Mālama Mānoa board member Joyce Arizumi.

Celebrants circle the yagura, or bon dance tower, while the music plays. Movements are easy to learn by following the lead of colorful, professionally trained, kimono-clad dancers. The energetic drumming performance by Ryusei Taiko at 8:30 p.m. is the evening’s highlight.

Board member Maile Crabb Williams remembers: “During my childhood in

Haleiwa, I loved the bon dances and the sound of the drums at night. Now, sixty years later, I live in Mānoa and my grandchildren love going to the Koganji bon dance!”

Families and friends enjoy such tasty treats as grilled corn on the cob, “Kimono Dogs,” yakisoba noodles, kinako mochi, andagi, stew plates, and colorful shave ice.

This annual event is a fundraiser which helps the Koganji Temple’s congregation maintain its beautiful building and landscaping. To learn more about the Koganji Temple and bon dance, visit www.koganjitemple.org.

July's Stream Clean-Up a Great Success

Join us November 12 for the Next!

After a light drizzle, the skies cleared, and the camaraderie was even better for Mālama Mānoa's Stream Clean-Up on July 16. More than twenty volunteers gathered ten bags of trash and many bulky items that would otherwise be polluting Mānoa Stream.

We're grateful to all the community folks who helped, but a special thanks to Mānoa resident Brant Hi'ikua Chillingworth, who organized about eight members of the Kanu Hawai'i network to kōkua the summer clean up. Mahalo!

For thirteen years, Mālama Mānoa has participated in the City and County's *Adopt-a-Stream* program. "Our" section of the stream is between Kahaloa Street bridge near Mānoa District Park and the Woodlawn Drive bridge near Longs.

Join us again on November 12, in conjunction with *Make a Difference Day*. It's the last such clean-up of the year. Meet at the Woodlawn bridge at 10 a.m. with boots and gloves, join the fun and wrap up by noon. For more information please contact George Arizumi at 988-5069. □



Join the Mānoa Christmas Parade

To help decorate the Mālama Mānoa truck meet at Noelani School 2:30 p.m.

To walk in the parade and distribute candy look for **Mālama Mānoa's truck** on Woodlawn Drive across from Noelani 4:30 p.m.

Please call **988-1611** or e-mail: AlohaTownie@yahoo.com for more information or to let us know you're coming

Carolyn Borges of Tom Terrific's *Mahalo and Aloha!*

Carolyn Borges has been serving the community's graphics needs since she first opened the "kinder, gentler" copy shop in 1999 in Mānoa Marketplace.

Tom Terrific's began as a simple copy shop, but responding to the needs of Mālama Mānoa and other customers, Carolyn gradually expanded her repertoire beyond reproduction to producing posters, invitations, newsletters, brochures, signs and much more. Relocating to Mānoa Square in 2003, Tom Terrific's became an integral part of the Mānoa community. We *mahalo* them for their support and generosity over the years.



This past summer Carolyn sold the business to move to Niles, Michigan. She and her terrific husband Tom are renovating a house on a heavily wooded one-acre lot with a stream. We will miss Carolyn, but wish her and Tom and their two dogs much happiness in this new chapter of their lives.

Also, a big *Aloha* to the new owners, Victor and Sarah Kim. They and their staff are already impressing everyone with their friendliness and willingness to please. Stop by and say hello! □

Mānoa Christmas Parade Come Join the Fun!

One of the highlights of the Christmas season is Mānoa's very own Christmas Parade, featuring local businesses and community organizations, high school and local bands, youth clubs, government representatives, and of course St. Nick himself.

This year we are inviting community members to join us in the fun. You can either help to decorate the truck, walk with us in the parade, or both if you wish! See details in box on the left of this page.

Mālama Mānoa participates every year, with a decorated truck and volunteers walking in the parade and distributing candy to the children.

Thanks to the East Mānoa Lions Club and Mānoa Jaycees for sponsoring this festive community event, and to Mānoa Waioli Lions Club and Mānoa District Park for assisting. □



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INSIDE:

1. November Annual Meeting
2. President's Corner
Autumn Appeal
Mānoa Neighborhoods
3. *Wahi Pana 'o Mānoa - Kanewai lo'i*
4. Historic Mānoa Walking Tour
5. Historic Property Tax Exemption
Preserving Our Historic Homes
Updating Your Membership
6. Lyon in Summer Gala
Kogonji Temple Bon Dance
7. Stream Clean Up November 12
Christmas Parade December 10
Aloha Carolyn Borges
8. Community Calendar
Table of Contents

Mālama Mānoa Annual Membership Meeting

**Mānoa Chinese Cemetery:
Is It REALLY HAUNTED?**

Find out on:
Wednesday, November 9, 2011
6:30 p.m.

**Please Note New Location:
Lin Yee Chung Memorial Hall at
Mānoa Chinese Cemetery**
See Cover Page for Details.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For a full and continually updated calendar of community events of interest, visit our website at
www.malamamanoa.org/calendar

The public is welcome at all Mālama Mānoa Board Meetings.

Wednesday, November 2, 7:00-9:30 p.m.
Mānoa Neighborhood Board Meeting
Noelani School Cafeteria

Friday, November 4, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Mānoa Valley District Park Fall Fair
Old gym at the Park

Wednesday, November 9, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Mālama Mānoa Annual Membership
Meeting
Program: Mānoa Chinese Cemetery:
Is It Really Haunted?
Lin Yee Chung Memorial Hall at
Mānoa Chinese Cemetery
(Board meets at 5:30 p.m.)

Saturday, November 12, 10:00 a.m.-Noon
Mānoa Stream Clean-Up
Meet at Woodlawn Bridge near Longs

December
No Mālama Mānoa Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 7, 7:00-9:30 p.m.
Mānoa Neighborhood Board Meeting
Noelani School Cafeteria

Saturday, December 10, 5:00 p.m.
Annual Mānoa Christmas Parade
Noelani School to
Mānoa Valley District Park

Wednesday, January 4, 7:00-9:30 pm
Mānoa Neighborhood Board Meeting
Noelani School Cafeteria

Wednesday, January 11, 7:00-8:30 pm
Mālama Mānoa Board Meeting
Mānoa Gardens Community Room

Wednesday, February 1, 7:00-9:30 pm
Mānoa Neighborhood Board Meeting
Noelani School Cafeteria

Wednesday, February 8, 6:00-7:30 pm
Mālama Mānoa Board Meeting
Mānoa Gardens Community Room