



Mālama o Mānoa Newsletter

Vol. 17, No. 1
March 2009

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

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Mālama o Mānoa
P.O. Box 61961
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Mālama o Mānoa Newsletter
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Be a Part of MoM Strategy and Planning for Mānoa Valley

What are the critical issues facing Mānoa in the next five years? What are the larger trends that will affect Mānoa's health and welfare? How can Mālama o Mānoa foster a sense of community? What are the opportunities that can be met to enhance the Mānoa neighborhood?

These are some of the questions to be addressed in Mālama o Mānoa's strategic planning process this year. The community is invited to participate Wednesday, March 11 at 7 p.m. at Mānoa Gardens Community Room. The public input will help define the strengths, opportunities, aspirations and action plans that will frame what Mālama o Mānoa's efforts will focus on. We'll also learn more about the planning process.

MoM needs the input of all community stakeholders to ensure that the strategic plan is focused on the right opportunities and strategic issues. Beginning in March, regular updates will be posted at www.mal-amaomanoa.org and an online survey will be conducted later this spring. MoM board members will also be holding interviews with individuals and focus groups on particular ideas to gather more input. Finally, the draft plan will be presented at a general membership meeting in late 2009 for further comment and refinement.

Since MoM's founding in 1992, it has provided an association of people connected by their aloha for the beauty, history and daily living experiences of Mānoa Valley. Its activities have focused on protecting and enhancing the special qualities of the valley, including its history, culture and relationships between members of the community.

The strategic plan will build on the organization's significant history and define how best to focus the passion, resources and energy of Mālama o Mānoa to be more effective, efficient, and responsive to the needs of the community. The result will be a new strategic plan that focuses our efforts and decisions about core programs and initiatives over the next five years.

Please join us as we determine MoM's path and role in protecting our Mānoa Valley.

MoM Quarterly Meeting Program

Join with others at this special meeting to talk about the past, present and future of our valley community. The program starts at 7:00 p.m. You're also welcome to sit in on the Board meeting from 5:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

HISTORIC HOMES WALKING TOUR

In celebration of National Historic Preservation Month. Transport by shuttle to view and visit some of the significant homes in one of the valley's historical residential areas. See details and registration on pages 5-6.

President's Corner

by Eric DeCarlo

Aloha mai kau.



This is my first message as president of Mālama o Mānoa and I want to thank you for the honor and privilege of serving and leading this wonderful organization.

Although the year 2009 is progressing quickly, I want to wish you all a very happy new year! I think the Ox of the Chinese Zodiac is an appropriate sign for this year, and can be significant for MoM. It is thought the Ox represents prosperity

through fortitude and hard work; this is truly an ideal we should all embrace.

The Ox is patient, tireless in work, and capable of enduring any amount of hardship without complaint. More than ten years of association with Mālama o Mānoa has shown me that our organization is full of Ox people!

We will need all these oxen for a big and important task that we're undertaking. Mālama o Mānoa is now midway through its second decade as a community organization, and we are in the process of developing a five-year strategic plan. This important activity is critical to direct our organization and cannot be successful without your kokua to help us shape our vision and goals. Please join us at our General Meeting on March 11th at the Mānoa Gardens Community Room to express your thoughts and ideas. We will continue to solicit your input throughout the year. See the front page of this newsletter for more information.

In addition, Mālama o Mānoa volunteers will continue with our

traditional and popular projects, such as the quarterly Mānoa Stream Cleaning, the Mānoa Historic Homes Tour, and, of course, joining in the Mānoa Christmas Parade. I invite you to participate in these enjoyable activities. See articles in this newsletter about the next Stream Cleaning in April and the Historic Homes Walking Tour in May.

Since my particular interest is the natural environment, I also hope we can initiate new projects to help us lead Mānoa into an era of environmental responsibility and sustainability. Please do contact me with any ideas you have and come join in the fun.

With your help we can all make a difference and ensure that our community is a better place for all.

Mahalo nui loa, a hui hou kua,

Eric

VOTING FOR MĀNOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD

This year, voting for the Neighborhood Board Elections will be conducted online. Budget cuts and ballot integrity were cited in making the change from mail-in voting. The technology used to transmit ballots uses encryption procedures similar to what banks use to transfer funds. By April 24, you will receive instructions in the mail, along with your own personal ID number. The ID number, with the last four digits of your Social Security Number (SSN), will allow you to access a Neighborhood Board ballot from any web-enabled computer. Voting ends on May 22, 2009. The new board members will start their two year terms on July 1st. For more information, see <http://www.honolulu.gov/nco> or call the Neighborhood Commission Office Mānoa Neighborhood Board Chair Tom Heinrich at 551-4098.

Educational Endowment Grant Application Deadline March 31

This may be your year! In 2009 Mālama o Mānoa is again offering monetary grants from its Educational Endowment Fund to non-profit organizations in the Valley whose projects are compatible with the mission of Mālama o Mānoa.

Projects funded are those that help to preserve, protect, or enhance the unique qualities of Mānoa Valley and celebrate the diversity of its residents. Grantees in past years have included Lyon Arboretum, Mid-Pacific Institute, Mānoa School and the Lin Yee Chung Association, which operates Mānoa Chinese Cemetery.

Deadline for submission is March 31, 2009, with awards to be announced the middle of May. For more information and to obtain an application call (808) 988-6016 or e-mail marycooke@hawaii.rr.com.

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NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Photos by Jim Harwood

Jill Laughlin

Jill has been a Mānoa resident for 25 years, and is a UH graduate. She has worked at Lyon Arboretum for 18 years and is now Education and Outreach Programs Manager. In her free time she loves following local high school and college sports, camping at Waimanalo Beach, hiking and traveling. She also serves on the Board of VSA Arts Hawaii-Pacific – a program that assists artists with disabilities. For Jill, the sense of community in Mānoa is what has grounded and continues to connect her personally to the valley and its people. Mālama o Mānoa's commitment to the preservation of the rich cultural and natural history of Mānoa builds, strengthens and enriches our community.



James Rumford

Jim Rumford, a 30-year resident of Mānoa, writes and illustrates children's books which are published nationally and internationally. Jim was a Peace Corps volunteer with his wife Carol in Chad and Afghanistan, where they both taught English. Later he taught at the National University of Rwanda and in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Upon returning to Hawaii in 1986, Jim founded Mānoa Press, which makes limited-edition handmade books. In 2001 Jim transformed a valley legend into a children's book, *Kahalaopuna, the Beauty of Mānoa*. Sales of the book helped Mālama o Mānoa pay the legal costs involved in the effort to keep the 38kv power lines off Wāhila Ridge. Over the years, the book has also provided the children of the valley with a story that connects them to the ancient past.



Karen Kimura

Karen's roots in Mānoa begin with her mother-in-law, who has been a long-time resident. Karen spent her childhood years in the valley and attended Mānoa Japanese School, and she and her husband returned to Mānoa 10 years ago. She has been a realtor since 1980, and served on the Board of Directors for both the Honolulu Board of Realtors (becoming President) and the Hawaii Association of Realtors. She also worked in Ann Kobayashi's office at the legislature for several sessions. She is very interested in preserving Mānoa Valley, and hopes to be a contributing member of the Mālama o Mānoa 'ohana. Karen loves to bake, so we are looking forward to some great baked treats at our General meetings!



Jan Tucker

Jan and her husband Corey have lived in Mānoa for 23 years and have raised two sons here. She first became aware of Mālama o Mānoa's grassroots influence when Corey worked on the case challenging HECO's proposal to run the 38kv transmission lines on Wāhila Ridge. She was deeply affected by the many people that were dedicated to preserving the beautiful and precious resources of Mānoa Valley, and began volunteering with the Tour of Homes and the Tree Give-Away. She has been impressed by these and other MoM events, which receive a tremendous community response and leave a positive impact on the valley. As a board member, she will work to extend MoM's mission.



Patricia A. Chung

Pat has had two careers: first as a teacher until 1982, and then in real estate for 38 years. Her last office was located in Isaac Choy's building on East Mānoa Rd. She just retired, but still owns Mānoa Realty. And she's not bored! Her days are now filled with the activities she loves most: organic gardening, helping with her grandchildren, and canoe paddling at Hui Nalu Canoe Club. Other hobbies and pastimes include walking, quilting, reading, sewing, and tending to her fishpond and her orchids. Pat admires the people who give of their time and expertise to Mālama o Mānoa, and looks forward to helping preserve Mānoa's precious environment.

Diane Ito

When not working in real estate at Coldwell Banker, Diane tags herself as "Your Mānoa Specialist". She loves the beauty of the valley and its sense of community. She has lived in Mānoa since 1988, when she married Alan Ito and they moved into his family house on Lowrey Avenue. Diane's mother-in-law, Helen Harada Ito, has been a Mānoa resident her whole life, and her father-in-law has been active for many years with East Mānoa Lions Club, Mānoa Japanese Language School, Noelani Boy Scouts, and various other Mānoa organizations. Diane would like to continue this family tradition of giving back to the community through her participation with Mālama o Mānoa.



(continued on page 4)

New Board Members

(continued from page 3)

James Harwood

Born in Salt Lake City, Utah, Jim received a B.A. in physics and mathematics from Columbia University. Coming to Hawaii in 1965, he was hired



by the UH Institute for Astronomy as computer control systems engineer for two telescopes at the Mauna Kea Observatory. Based mainly at the Insti-

tute's Mānoa facility, he commuted by bike from his Mānoa home to work and although retired, is still riding his bike! An active member of numerous community organizations, including Mālama o Mānoa, he has participated in and photographed almost every major MoM event since 2000, ranging from the Wāhila Ridge power line effort to the quarterly stream clean-ups. He looks forward to helping MoM continue to improve life in our beautiful valley.

Kirk Caldwell

Kirk was born in Waipahu and grew up in Hilo. He attended Tufts University and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy,



then returned to Hawaii and obtained his law degree from the University of Hawaii. Joining the law firm of Ashton and Wriston in 1984, he became a partner in 1991. He has been looking out for Mānoa since the 1980s, when he served on the Mānoa Neighborhood Board. In 2002, he was elected to the Hawaii House of Representatives from District 24, served on several different committees, and became Majority Leader in 2006. He is now Managing Director for the City and County of Honolulu, and is pleased to join the Board as Mālama o Mānoa embarks on developing its Strategic Plan.



Photo courtesy of

Honor Awarded for 1000 Trees Give-Away

On January 28, 2009, the Council of the City & County of Honolulu honored Mālama o Mānoa with a certificate for its outstanding 1,000 Trees Giveaway event. Committee members Jeremy Lam, Linda LeGrande, Pat Avery and Thalya DeMott represented MoM at the ceremony. The biennial event was established in 2004 to contribute to the greening of Oahu--yard by yard, tree by tree--and has since enhanced the beauty of our island home by assisting in the protection of our invaluable watershed. At the 2008 event, over 1,800 trees of 30 different species were distributed, helped in part by Punahou School Academy Science Teacher Gail Peiterson and her students, who propagated more than 400 native seedlings, including 200 milo and 200 wiliwili.

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A Special Event to Benefit Mālama o Mānoa

THE 2009 HISTORIC HOMES WALKING TOUR



SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2009

8:30 A.M - 12 NOON

Welcome to our Walk through *Pu'u Pueo*, the Owl's Hill.



Examples of original interiors are featured in several of the homes.

In celebration of National Historic Preservation Month, we are offering a one-mile stroll through the significant homes of this historical area.

Learn the legends of avenging spirits, owl-deities, and *menehune* battles in a place where history and spirits seem to hover in the air.

Visit the Mānoa Valley homes of the Territorial Era by architects C. W. Dickey, Hart Wood, and Emory & Webb. You will view over 20 historic homes and enter six of these homes.

PLEASE SEE REGISTRATION FOR THIS HISTORIC HOMES WALKING TOUR ON PAGE 6. NOTE THIS IS A "RAIN-OR-SHINE EVENT" AND NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED.

Mālama o Mānoa is a non-profit community organization, established in 1992, with 3,700 members. Its mission is to promote community; celebrate our cultural diversity and heritage; and preserve, protect and enhance the special qualities of historic Mānoa Valley.

~ Some of our On-Going Projects ~

¶ Grant Awards from our Endowment Fund to community projects consistent with the Mission of Mālama o Mānoa ¶ Regular cleaning of Mānoa Stream by our dedicated volunteers ¶ Biennial Kūpuna Supper honoring Mānoa residents over 65 years of age who have lived in the valley for 50 years or more ¶ Raising and giving away over 1,000 trees to

help keep Mānoa green and cool, enhance the landscape and minimize erosion and run off ¶ Lead organization that created the first thematic historic district in Mānoa Valley, to include 25 homes in the College Hills Subdivision ¶ And our continuing effort to add more historic homes to this thematic district.

THE 2009 HISTORIC HOMES WALKING TOUR REGISTRATION

Parking is available at Mānoa Valley District Park, upper lot off Mānoa Road.

Check in 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Shuttle runs from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. every 30 minutes to take participants to registration tent and start of Tour.

Last shuttle leaves the park at 10:30.

Houses will close promptly at noon.

SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2009 ~ 8:30 A.M - 12 NOON

**Cost: \$25 in advance until May 4th
After May 4 to May 10: \$30**

No tickets will be mailed.

**Your reservation will be acknowledged
at the registration tent.**

Checks or cash only, please.

In Valley tradition, the walk will take place rainbows or shine! For your safety, please stay on the public right-of-way and view homes from the street. When entering the designated homes, you will be asked to take off your shoes (you'll be given a bag in which to carry them).

-----Please print!-----

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Home Address _____

HomePhone _____ Cell _____

\$ _____ \$25 Registration Fee per person. Make checks payable to Mālama o Mānoa.

\$ _____ I'm unable to attend but would like to make a donation to Mālama o Mānoa.

Complete this form, detach and send to:
MĀLAMA O MĀNOA • P.O. BOX 61961 • HONOLULU, HI 96839
Early registration must be received by Monday, May 4, 2009. (No refunds.)

Join the Mānoa Stream Clean-Up, Saturday – April 11th *Help Celebrate Earth Month!*

Mālama o Mānoa's quarterly stream clean-up on Saturday, April 11, 2009, will be one of a dizzying array of activities sponsored by the City and County of Honolulu in recognition of Earth Month 2009.

The clean-up is a part of the City's "Adopt-a-Stream" program, run by the Department of Environmental Services. MoM has "adopted" the portion of the stream from the Woodlawn Drive bridge near Longs Drugs up to the Kahaloa Street bridge near Mānoa District Park. Watch for signs on the Woodlawn Drive bridge announcing the event - we'll meet there at 9 a.m. and be done by 11 a.m. For additional information, please contact **George Arizumi** at 988-5069.

Along with the MoM effort, other organizations are partnering with the City to conduct stream clean-ups elsewhere in Mānoa and in the Ala Wai Watershed on April 11. Additional Mānoa sites will be the Kolomono Ditch Bridge, led by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and in lower Mānoa at the ramp access to the stream on Koali Road, organized by the UH Environmental Law Society. And you won't want to miss the Armored Catfish Roundup at the E. Mānoa Road Bridge, organized by the DLNR's Division of Aquatic Resources and the Honolulu Aquarium Society.

After you've played around in the stream, head down to the Waikiki Aquarium for the Mauka to Makai Expo, a free all-day event featuring numerous activities, including interactive exhibits, displays, winning videos from the Earth Month Teen Video Contest, storytelling and crafts, and a fish (*moi*) release into the ocean behind the Aquarium.

These are only the activities on April 11th. The City has planned additional events and clean-ups throughout the month all over Oahu, so watch for newspaper updates, check http://www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com/storm/news/earth_month_2009.html, or call **Iwalani Sato**, Department of Environmental Services, at 780-8872. See you at the stream!

New Publication: Homeowners' Guide To Nominating Historic Residences

Looking for information about putting your home on the Hawai'i State Register of Historic Places?

A new book is available that will answer your questions. Recently published by the Historic Hawaii Foundation, the "Guide to Nominating Residences to the Hawai'i State Register of Historic Places" is available as a free electronic resource and is posted online at www.historichawaii.org.

The Guide includes an overview of the Hawai'i State Register of Historic Places; the benefits and responsibilities associated with historic designation; myths and facts about designation; how to research the history of your home; how to complete the nomination form; the review and approval process; and an illustrated glossary of architectural terms and styles, featuring examples from Hawai'i.

The State Register was established to recognize many types of cultural resources. In addition to residences, it also includes other sites that tell the rich and varied history of the Hawaiian Islands. Represented on the Register are places of commerce, agriculture, education, recreation, worship, community gathering, civic interaction and housing. The Guide was written specifically for registering historic houses, but much of the information is also relevant for other types of historic sites.

In addition to the free on-line version of the Guide, it is also available on CD (\$10) or hard copy (\$60 for the basic version; \$120 including appendices). To order, contact the Historic Hawai'i Foundation: phone 523-2900 or e-mail preservation@historichawaii.org.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For a full and continually updated calendar of community events of interest, visit our website at www.malamaomanoa.org/calendar. The public is welcome at all Mālama o Mānoa Board Meetings.

Wed, March 4 , 7:00-9:30 p.m.
Mānoa Neighborhood Board Meeting
Noelani School Cafeteria

Wed, March 11, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Mālama o Mānoa Quarterly General
Membership Program:
Mānoa's Future-Guest Speaker &
Strategic Planning Discussion
(Board meets at 5:30 p.m.)

Tuesday, March 31
*Application Deadline for
MoM Endowment Grants*

Wed, April 1, 7:00-9:30 p.m.
Mānoa Neighborhood Board Meeting
Noelani School Cafeteria

Wed, April 8, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Mālama o Mānoa Board Meeting
Mānoa Gardens Community Room

Sat, April 11, 9:00-11:00 a.m.
Mānoa Stream Cleaning
Meet at Woodlawn bridge near Longs

Wed, May 6, 7:00-9:30 p.m.
Mānoa Neighborhood Board Meeting
Noelani School Cafeteria

Sun, May 10, 8:30 a.m.-12 Noon
*Historic Homes Walking Tour
In Honor of National Historic
Preservation Month*

Wed, May 13, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Mālama o Mānoa Board Meeting
Mānoa Gardens Community Room

Wed, June 3, 7:00-9:30 pm
Mānoa Neighborhood Board Meeting
Noelani School Cafeteria

Wed, June 10, 7:00-8:30 pm
Mālama o Mānoa General
Membership Meeting
(Topic to be announced)
Mānoa Gardens Community Room



Screenshot of new website

Update on MoM Website

An important item on Mālama o Mānoa's to-do list has been updating and redesigning its website. Duncan Dempster, a former Board member who continues as a loyal and active advisor, has been our computer guru. For years he has been a true unsung hero, updating the website's content and maintaining the membership database.

But he and his wife Joan moved to the Big Island, and it was time for MoM to look into other options. Bids were solicited, a web developer was selected. and with specific input from the Board, a redesign was chosen. Based on ease of use, compatibility, and the ability to update and add content readily.

Information from the old site was retained, including calendar and descriptions of events, and both current and past issues of the newsletter, with featured activities highlighted. You can't actually enter the site right now—it's "static"—but it will be "live" by mid-March.

This will be an opportunity for the community to engage with Mālama o Mānoa; any history or anecdotes about growing up in the valley would be especially appreciated. And, if you're not a MoM member, you can join right online! Keep watching, and catch our new look!