

The Native Hawaiian Plant Society

The newsletter of The Native Hawaiian Plant Society, heretofore published annually, highlights matters of interest to its members



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In this issue. . .

Public Meeting Announcement	1
Maui Botanical Garden	1
Kanaha Pond	2
President's message	2
Kapalua Earth Summit	3
Thanks for Donations	3

Public Meeting November 8, 1996

Find out what has been happening to the West Maui watershed when NHPS presents 'Puu Kukui Watershed, On the Bleeding Edge of Conservation.' The slide show by Randy Bartlett will be shown on November 8, at 7 PM at the Upcountry Community Center in Pukalani. Randy, Puu Kukui Watershed Supervisor for Maui Pineapple Company (MPC), will discuss the Company's management of its 8,650 acres of conservation-zoned lands in West Maui. In partnership with the Nature Conservancy of Hawaii, MPC joined the state's Natural Area Partnership Program in 1993. Since then, Randy and his two man team of Hank Oppenheimer and Scott Meidell have worked aggressively to preserve and protect the native plants and animals of the area. This is a big job since the watershed contains 280 native plants that include 18 found only on West Maui. The presentation will cover their efforts, and will be followed by refreshments and conversation.

—Linda Nelson

Maui Botanical Gardens

The Maui Country Parks Department has issued a request for proposals to develop a plan to administer and operate a botanical garden that focuses on native Hawaiian plants. The Board of the NHPS has voted to apply for the grant monies available to develop such a plan. The \$90,000 grant is from a line item in the County's budget which we successfully lobbied for earlier this year.

The mission statement of the Society is "To support the rescue and preservation of native Hawaiian plants, and to increase public awareness of native Hawaiian plants by working on projects cooperatively with government agencies, public and private groups and individuals, and to use the Maui Botanical Gardens and other resources for public education." The NHPS is incomparably qualified to develop the Maui Botanical Gardens to best meet the needs of our native plants and the interests of our community. Once our plan has been submitted we will continue to need your support

to make it become a reality! The Parks Department will decide what the ultimate financial commitment will be by the County. Your letters of support and testimonies will be extremely important during the next budget cycle beginning in February 1997. The Mayor, Country Council and the Parks Department must be educated to the importance of this unique and valuable Botanical Garden in our community.

If you can help or have a special skill that will help us meet this goal please contact Lisa Schattenburg-Raymond at 878-3564 or the NHPS at 876-1813, E-mail at nhps@maui.net.

A special mahalo to Councilman Sol Kaho'ohalahala, Maui Outdoor Circles President Gene Thompson, Architects Maui's Tom Cannon and Attorney Brian Jenkins of Brumbaugh & Jenkins, for all their help and continuing support!

Towards a Green Future at Kanaha Pond Wildlife Sanctuary

Kanaha Pond Wildlife Sanctuary is a hot, dry and very special site for endangered waterbirds, as well as for the Society's inveterate ecosystem restorers Mike Perry, Ed Tamayose and their ever changing "crew" of assistants. The enormously successful results of Perry and crew's habitat restoration have recently caught the eyes of a wider audience of experts in rare plant conservation, and Kanaha Pond's coastal loose sand dunes may soon be replanted with some of Maui's rarest plant species. Proposals from Hawaii's Rare Plant Recovery Group and the State Forestry & Wildlife staff are working their way through the federal government. They seek funding and approval for coastal sand dune revegetation projects with at least 13 different threatened or endangered species, as well as other commoner native species. The goal is to help the recovery of rare coastal plant species. Earlier and ongoing work by Society members at Kanaha has already resulted in the apparently successful naturalization of at least Ko'oloa-'ula (*Abutilon menziesii*), *Scaevola coriacea*, *Lepidium bidentatum* var. *o-waihiense*, and 'Ohai (*Sesbania tomentosa*). This, as well as the scale of alien plant removals and native plant recovery on the sand dunes, was an important reason for proposals to now utilize Kanaha for an expanded attempt at rare plant species' recovery. These projects, when funded, should provide for interesting "co-work" between State and Federal plant recovery experts and NHPS members.

Kanaha Pond is also the site for several new studies already funded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The studies concern habitat restoration for endangered waterbirds by clearing alien vegetation and subsequently restoring the area with appropriate native Hawaiian plant species. Two acres, beginning at water's edge, are to be stripped of all non-native plant species, and then replanted with natives to test differing use of the area, before and after, by waterbirds. This is like the ongoing work of the NHPS at Kanaha, but now the scientific foundation for such restoration efforts will be elucidated. If you are interested in joining this upcoming effort, contact Mike Perry (572-9836) or Fern Duvall (871-4210). Another segment of the EPA studies will create permanent transects for monitoring vegetation composition and a detailed map of the vegetation communities of the Sanctuary.

If you have not seen the tremendous changes ongoing at Kanaha, join Mike Perry on some Tuesday, help in the work, and see it yourself!!

—Fern Duvall

President's Message

NHPS has had a busy year. Things are "poppin'" at Kanaha and the Botanical Garden. The monthly workparties saw plantings at Gressitt (thanks to Hank Oppenheimer for his West Maui plants) and the first new and natural seedlings in the Auwahi enclosures. Our public meetings had master weaver Elizabeth Lee reintroducing makaloa weaving to Maui and Dr. Gary Ray of the Center for Plant Conservation speaking on endangered species reintroduction. We gained many new members but lost one of our inspirations. George LeBouvier passed away in Oregon earlier this year. He helped start NHPS and designed our original logo.



He loved Hawaii and worked tirelessly to save native plants. I still treasure a copy of the intricately detailed plant guides he made for one of his favorite hikes.

As the year ends, please take time to renew your membership. Fill out the enclosed form and return it with your dues. We need your support. Aloha, LN

Earth Maui Nature Summit

From August 23 - 25, Kapalua Nature Society held its first Earth Maui Nature Summit at the Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua. NHPS was invited to put together a display of native plants. Anna Palomino of Ho'olawa Farms



volunteered plants from her nursery and we arranged a beautiful table display. While a bit hard to find, every one agreed that the display was spectacular. A special thanks and aloha to Anna for her hard work.

Donations

It's time to thank our many members who sent donations during the past year. In addition to general donations, people sent money for the Maui Botanical Garden, Kanaha Pond and in memory of George LeBouvier. Their names include:

John and Gordean Bailey
Felicia G. Bock
Ken and Dolly Fiske
Carolyn Gressitt
Martha Martin
Geary S. Mizuno
James Moriyasu

Bill Mull
John Plews
Diane Shepherd
Shirley Shepherd
Kim Sikoryak
The Anne and Jacob Starr Fnd.
Walter Tokushige

The Kapalua Nature Society sent us a thank-you donation for our display at the Earth Maui Nature Summit.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Love native plants and want to see some of Maui's remotest places? NHPS volunteers work where the plants are, fencing threatened species from feral animal damage on Haleakala, maintaining a species sanctuary in the West Maui Mountains, clearing weeds to allow dormant natives to reclaim natural wetlands at Kanaha Pond. Can you help? Call us at 876-1813 (e-mail nhps@maui.net) to volunteer.

—LN

About the Newsletter

Starting with this issue, Debra Lordan and Sally Ekdahl of Advanced Desktop Publishing will be doing our newsletter. Many thanks and aloha to Philip Thomas for his good work with the newsletter over the past two years. —LN

Need to Contact Us?

New phone number/fax:

(876-1813)

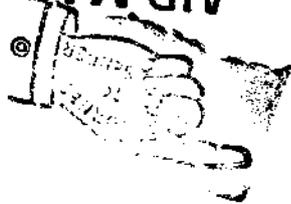
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