



Native Hawaiian Plant Society

Nanea Nā Pua O Ka 'Āina Aloha

NHPS Newsletter

February 2010

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Marie VanZandt at Kanahā

Q&A with Marie VanZandt, Americorp Volunteer Coordinator at Kanahā Pond

NHPS asked Marie to share about herself and her opportunity as Americorp Volunteer Coordinator at Kanahā Pond Wildlife Sanctuary.

Aloha! My name is Marie VanZandt. I was born and raised in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Over the past six years I have migrated further out west, traveling from Boulder to San Francisco to Seattle, and now I have landed here in Beautiful MAUI! I am very excited to join the Maui Community and contribute to the ongoing wetland restoration project at Kanahā Pond Wildlife Sanctuary.

In Dec of 2008 I graduated with a BS in Biology with an emphasis in Conservation Ecology. I spent my final year in South Africa, where I studied the movement of invasive species through ephemeral river systems in the southern Karoo. I am very interested in restoration ecology in areas degraded through anthropogenic influences. I am passionate about organizing and building community around environmental projects. I believe bringing together multiple partner organizations, ensures the sustainability of restoration projects. The ongoing support of the Native Hawaiian Plant Society at Kanahā Pond is the perfect example of one such dedicated partnership.

Why did you joined Americorp? I joined Americorp to expand my hands on experience in the realm of restoration ecology. As our Americorp motto goes "We get things done." We are in the trenches fighting the battles against invasive species and restoring native ecosystems. I have been given an amazing opportunity to work with several great minds in the diverse ecosystems of Maui Nui. My education has given me a solid theoretical base. I am now integrating this knowledge into the many components of making a project successful. Maui has welcomed me with open arms, and I, in return, feel obligated to work toward restoring and preserving its natural beauty.

What do you hope to accomplish at Kanahā Pond? Ultimately I would like assist in restoring and expanding the functioning nesting habitat for the Native Hawaiian Birds utilizing the pond. Rebuilding a degraded ecosystem is hard work and not an easy task. By concentrating my efforts on the 20 acres already cleared, I believe the results will be more achievable. The three tasks I am focusing on this year are: clearing/controlling invasive re-growth, expanding plant diversity though plant propagation in the nursery, and building community partners. The last task is a priority in ensuring the success of this five year project. "Many hands make light work."

What have you accomplished so far? Most of the energy this past Fall was put toward the recently (Spring 2009) cleared twenty acres. This has entailed getting the *Kiawe*, *Date Palm* and *Pluchea* regrowth under control and establishing appropriate native ground cover. Last year's contractors outplanted four plant species, *'Ākulikuli*, *Creeping 'Ilima*, *'Ōhelo kai*, and *Pōhuehue*. I have begun propagating other appropriate plant species to add to the diversity in the restoration area. Some of these plants have included *Ma'o*, *Nehe*, *Creeping Naupaka*, *Ko'olua 'ula*, *Maiapilo*, and *'Ohai*. I have also worked toward strengthening and building on the
(continued on page 3)

Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge Trip

by Irene Newhouse



Karly and Malia double-checking the plant labels



Clermontia pyrrularia
Photo by Irene Newhouse

NHPS members Fern Duvall, Scott Jensen, Becky Lau, Irene Newhouse, Jay and Teya Penniman, and Katie Romanchuk traveled to the Big Island, where we met former Chair Linda Nelson, Memorial Day weekend. There was quite a bit of vog in Hilo, which we only left when we turned off the Saddle Road to go up Mauna Kea, but eventually we had to turn back into it to reach Hakalau.

On our arrival on Friday, we helped Baron Horiuchi and his two interns, Karly and Malia, load the trucks with the 250 plants we were going to outplant. Hakalau has reached a major milestone: nearly all the open space has been replanted with koa! The emphasis is therefore shifting to boosting the population of endangered plants. We were to plant *Clermontia pyrrularia* on behalf of the Plant Extinction Prevention Program (PEPP). Each plant had a label indicating the plant from which its seed had been harvested, and it has to be wired to the plant itself, along with a neon plastic tape, to facilitate finding it again. 8 such plants went into a plastic basket. Malia had to list every label as the plants were loaded into the truck. We planted in two forested areas that had been cleared of grassy undergrowth with herbicide, and extended the plantings already there. The birds respond better to clumps of nectar-bearing plants, where they can drink a lot without going too far.

In addition to preparing and planting these plants, members did some repotting and weeding in the greenhouse. We also enjoyed hours of bird watching – there were many, many i'iwi, 'apapane, 'amakihi, as well as some 'elepaio, 'oma'o, and the occasional 'akiapola'au and 'io. Katie Romanchuk and the Pennimans brought produce from their gardens for our meals. A great time was had by all!

NHPS Service Trip to Fleming Arboretum

by Shannon Paapanen



Irene Newhouse and Ariel hiking the trails at Pu'u Mahoe.

Last October NHPS members volunteered at the D.T. Fleming Arboretum in Ulupalakua, Hawai'i's oldest and largest native arboretum. A seven-acre enclosure located in the 17 acre Pu'u Mahoe cinder cone on Haleakala's southern slope, the Arboretum is home to over 120 species of native Hawaiian plants. Members applied compost and mulched, collected seed, hauled prunings, and helped clear away invasive glycine vine, Kikuyu grass and morning glory.

The Arboretum is overseen by the Friends of D.T. Fleming Arboretum (FOFA), a nonprofit corporation dedicated to preserving and upgrading the Arboretum. FOFA President, Martha Vockrodt-Moran, says the ultimate goal is to restore the native forest of Pu'u Mahoe, a home for native wildlife. "We work to constantly progress the Arboretum as a valuable seed resource for conservation and a plant recovery reserve for Maui's rare dryland species. The increasing importance of the Arboretum will assure its preservation, strong for the future. Especially exciting is involving the community in our proud work."

FOFA recently completed the construction of a Shed/Lua/Workshop facility to increase and broaden educational programs at Pu'u Mahoe. The facility makes possible a greater number of programs with increased participation. Martha hopes overnight camping for volunteers will increase youth group participation.

FOFA's mission is "preservation thru protection, propagation and distribution." FOFA distributes seed to public and private restoration groups for out planting. Home to one of Hawai'i's rarest trees, the Maui Alani (*Melicope knudsenii*), FOFA has distributed 39 Arboretum seedlings which have been out-planted into the Auwahi Forest, the State Natural Area Reserve and in the Arboretum. Waimea Arboretum on Oahu, Amy B. H. Greenwell Garden on the Big Island and the NTBG on Kauai also have seedlings.

NHPS supports the efforts of organizations such as FOFA in preserving and nurturing the native habitat of Hawai'i. We had a great time volunteering at Fleming Arboretum. **And the wonderful lunch served by Martha and the Fleming family's trademark Purple Cows – ice cream floats made with Roselani vanilla ice cream, ginger ale and Welch's grape juice – didn't hurt either!**



FOFA President, Martha Vockrodt-Moran and Maggie.

Upcoming NHPS Events

Annual Meeting & Lecture

February 26 (Friday) 7:00 pm

Dr. Tom A. Ranker, Professor & Chair of Botany at UH Mānoa will speak. Dr. Ranker is an expert on ferns and lycophytes (primitive spore bearing plants such as *Wawae'iole*). **Location:** Hannibal Tavares Community Center, Poolside Room, Pukalani.

NOTE: The Annual NHPS Membership Meeting will be held the same day and place, Friday, February 26th at 6:00 pm, prior to Dr. Ranker's lecture, to elect the 2010 Board of Directors.

Special Service Trips

For information on other NHPS Service Trips, contact Irene Newhouse (808) 264-6977 or einew@hotmail.com.

Regular Service Trips

Kanahā Pond (Every Thursday)

8:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Contact Lorna Hazen (808) 572-6338
lornajack@clearwire.net

Ha'ikū School (Every Sunday)

Every Sunday at 8:30 am

and some Monday mornings.

Contact Becky Lau (808) 575-2369

Kahului Library

Contact Lorna Hazen for dates and times

(808) 572-6338 or email lornajack@clearwire.net

Q&A with Marie VanZandt, continued

(continued from page 1)

Sanctuary's community partners. Maui Nui Botanical Garden, Maui Police Department's Positive Outreach Intervention Program (POI), Maui Community College, and (of course) the Native Hawaiian Plant Society are some of the partners I have consistently worked with. I have begun putting together a small scale study comparing the success of seed sowing natives in different ground covers throughout the pond.

What have you enjoyed most? The moments at the Sanctuary that give me the greatest enjoyment seem to be sharing it with first time visitors. When school and volunteer groups visit, they are captivated by the native flora and avifauna. Many never realized what a gem is hidden along the highway. **To volunteer at Kanahā Pond, contact Marie at (510) 332-9448 or NHPS Kanahā Project Coordinator, Lorna Hazen at (808) 572-6338.**



Fourth grader students from Kamehameha School check out a Black-Crowned Night Heron ('Auku'u) at Kanahā Pond.

Exciting News — *Flyin' Hawaiian Zipline Tours* in Operation!

Enclosure partner and owner of the property where the NHPS *Hibiscus* maintained has opened their new *Flyin' Hawaiian Zipline Tour* operation.

habitat preservation, the owner not only allows NHPS continued access to the low impact use option (as opposed to pre-approved development) and works to

native flora. Zipline participants can choose to assist with restoration along the zipline route, learning about plants such as the *Ma'o Hau Hele*, Hawai'i's critically endangered State Flower. *Flyin' Hawaiian Zipline* has the longest two runs of the five ziplines on Maui. Check out their website at flyinhawaiianzipline.com.



brackenridgei enclosure is

Dedicated to conservation and enclosure, but has chosen this educate their clientele about

Mahalo to:

Cook Kwee's Maui Cookies for donating cookies for our member meetings.

Maui County Parks and Recreation for the use of Hannibal Tavares Community Center Pool Room.

Harry Eager of the *Maui News*.

Enclosure Partners: Hawai'i State DLNR and Duane Ting and Family.

*Cyanea
duvalliorum,
and named after
NHPs Member,
Fern Duvall*



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DEAR NEWSLETTER RECIPIENTS: We printed the newsletter in black & white to save money. However, we are emailing a printable color version. If you did not get an email newsletter and would like to, contact einew@hotmail.com.



NEW NHPS T-SHIRTS FOR SALE!

<p><i>ʻĀwikiwiki flower design by NHPS Member, Muffie Davis</i></p> <p>Men's & Women's Styles \$18 Short Sleeve \$22 Long Sleeve</p>	<p>ALSO, our popular NHPS Logo Shirts have been reprinted!</p> <p>Men's & Women's Styles \$15 Short Sleeve \$20 Long Sleeve</p>
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Available at NHPS meetings
 Or Contact Lorna Hazen (808) 572-6338

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW!

Membership Form

Date _____

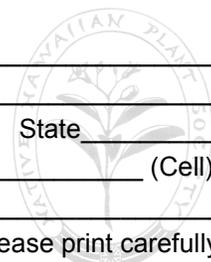
Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (Hm) _____ (Cell) _____

Email _____



(Please print carefully!)

Donation Categories: Individual \$15 _____ Family \$20 _____ Other \$ _____

Native Hawaiian Plant Society P.O. Box 5021 Kahului, Hawai'i 96733-5021

The Native Hawaiian Plant Society is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1980