

KAHO'OLAWE

Ko Hema Lamalama

Newsletter of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve

Summer 2009

Welcome to *Ko Hema Lamalama*, a newsletter declaring the news from Kaho'olawe. Uncle Harry Mitchell interpreted this name as the southern beacon, which served as a source of light to those weary travelers who voyaged beyond the pillars of Kahiki. Let *Ko Hema Lamalama* aid us in sharing a source of light about the island of Kaho'olawe and the restoration of Hawaiian culture across Hawai'i nei.



Aloha 'oe Hakioawa tarps!

by Michael K. Nāho'opi'i, Executive Director

For more than 30 years, Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana volunteers camping at Hakioawa fashioned their sole central gathering area – for meetings, food preparation, cooking, eating and talking story after a long day's work – from scrap lumber and tarps. Try as it might, the rustic structure could provide only minimal shelter from sun, wind and rain.

This year, thanks to the substantial legislative efforts and constant support from two Maui County state senators, J. Kalani English, who also represents Kaho'olawe, and Shan Tsutsui, Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding will be available in this current fiscal year to build a permanent shelter and kitchen

structure at Hakioawa.

The new *hale* will support Kaho'olawe volunteers in their cultural and environmental restoration work on the island. With a simple, economic and efficient low-maintenance design, the new kitchen *hale* will not overwhelm or detract from the other traditional Hawaiian structures and uses of Hakioawa. Sustainable for future generations to use, it will be constructed almost entirely of composite materials, impervious to rust and rot, will include rainwater catchment components, and will be adaptable to a photovoltaic electrical system.



Training Focus: Safety, Site Stabilization

News from the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana

In early July, the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana (‘Ohana) held its fourth biennial training workshop for its *kua* – those who take responsibility for safe and meaningful *huaka‘i* (service trips) to Kanaloa Kaho‘olawe. While the first three trainings were held at Hakioawa and Kuhe‘eia, this year’s program was based at Honokanai‘a.

Trained in the cultural and safety protocols of the ‘Ohana and the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC), *kua* learned to safely use and maintain on-island vehicles, as well as safe zodiac operations for loading and offloading participants from a boat to shore. But the primary focus of the three-day training was to begin a three-step stabilization process for major cultural sites at Piko O Wākea, Kāneloa – both seriously threatened by erosion and prioritized for restoration by the KIRC and the ‘Ohana – and the Kealaikahiki complex.

The first step in site stabilization is to map the distinct features of the site; second, to plan for the actual stabilization of the site – which may include some reconstruction; and third, to implement the stabilization and restoration plan. The July training workshop enabled *kua* to complete the first step at each site.

On the first day, Dr. Hallett (Hal) H. Hammatt, proprietor and principal archaeologist of Cultural Surveys Hawai‘i, instructed the *kua* in the fundamentals of site mapping. Days two and three saw the *kua* organized into three groups to map the sites – the prioritized Piko O Wākea and Kāneloa sites, and the Kealaikahiki complex, which today includes a navigators’ training platform that was dedicated in 2004. At Kealaikahiki, the task of the *kua* was to map the new platform site in relation its surrounding historical sites.

Funding for the training workshops was provided by the Pacific American Foundation through a Native Hawaiian Education Act grant from the U.S. Department of Education.



Hal Hammatt (l) and Auli‘i Mitchell (r) of Cultural Surveys Hawai‘i trained kua, Jon Ching (with tape) and Kiki Hee (foreground) how to map the Kuhike‘e navigational platform at Kealaikahiki. Hee’s son, Kilo Namahoe, observed.

New OHA Representative



KIRC Commissioners and senior staff honor John D. Waihe‘e IV for his service. – OHA Photo by Blaine Fergerstrom

As of June 30, 2009, the term of KIRC Commissioner John D. Waihe‘e IV came to an end. As the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) representative on the Commission, Waihe‘e oversaw the implementation of the KIRC’s first (2004-2008) and second (2009-2013) five-year Strategic Plan; and worked to streamline management and improve both internal and external communications and efficiency of the KIRC. He will be missed.



Colette Y. Machado

Stepping up to the plate as the Commission’s newest OHA representative is long-time Kaho‘olawe advocate, OHA Trustee Colette Y. Machado.

Currently serving her fourth term as Office of Hawaiian Affairs’ trustee for Moloka‘i and Lāna‘i, Machado was born at Ho‘olehua, Moloka‘i, and resides at Pūko‘o, East Moloka‘i with her husband, Myron Akutagawa. Trustee/Commissioner Machado graduated from the University of Hawai‘i-Mānoa with a bachelor’s degree in Education and went on to become an accomplished educator and leader throughout the Hawaiian Islands.

A Kaikamahine A Ka ‘Aha (Deaconess) with Ka Hale Ho‘āno O Ke Akua Church, she has served as the chairperson of the Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment Committee since 2002 and chairperson of the Legislative and Government Affairs Committee from 1999-2001. Colette also serves as president of the Moloka‘i Land Trust and was vice-president of the Moloka‘i Enterprise Community (EC) Governance Board, Ke Aupuni Lōkahi. Machado previously served two terms as the OHA representative to the KIRC where she served as both the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Commission. Among her other noteworthy public service posts have been as a Hawai‘i State Land Use Commissioner; Hawaiian Home Lands Commissioner; Moloka‘i Burial Council member; Moloka‘i Fishpond Restoration Task Force member; and on the Governor’s Moloka‘i Subsistence Task Force.

A Place of Convergence

by Herb Lee Jr., Ka'iulani Murphy, Michael Nāho'opi'i, and Kylee P. Omo

It is the place where the realms of Kane and Kanaloa converge. Where sky and earth find balance. Where the physical and ancestral come together in a perplexity of currents (wind and ocean), only to converge at the prominent southern point. It is a convergence of time and space, elemental and metaphysical. And to those with the shared experience, it is Kanaloa Kaho'olawe.



Hōkūle'a crew members focused toward Kaho'olawe: (L-R) Kealoha Hoe, Kekaulike Mar Jr., Captain Ka'iulani Murphy, Joshua Ka'akua (background), Moani Heimuli, Atwood Makanani

For teachers, the MKP workshops presented an opportunity to witness curriculum “come alive”, virtually leap off the page, and to understand its potential for classroom use throughout the state.

Most significant to this access was the arrival of the double-hulled voyaging canoe, Hōkūle'a, at Honokanai'a Bay. Captain Ka'iulani Murphy emphasized the multiple objectives of this voyage: as an on-site resource for MKP *kumu* (teachers); to prepare for PVS' worldwide voyage; and, to fulfill a commitment to connect with Kaho'olawe as an active resource. Crew training consisted of sailing from Ke'ehi, O'ahu to Honokanai'a, and back; maintaining anchor watch in Honokanai'a; day training at Moa'ulaiki, the second highest point on Kaho'olawe; and, overnight training at the Kuhike'e navigation platform at Kealaikahiki.

Both staff and teachers were immensely affected and grateful to be a part of such a significant access. One teacher shared: “Hiking, the marine lesson, the botanical lessons, the service project, and the cultural experience were all priceless. Thank you for it.” Hōkūle'a crewmember and KIRC Natural Resources Specialist Lopaka White spoke of his personal and professional growth as “discovering the balance and convergence of being the teacher on land and the student on water.” And, participating 'Ohana *kahu'āina* (caretakers) who crewed aboard Hōkūle'a gained new insight into Kanaloa Kaho'olawe from an ocean perspective.

“Developing the Mālama Kaho'olawe curriculum with our partners has truly been a profound and enlightening experience,” said Herb Lee, Jr., executive director of PAF. “The knowledge within this curriculum is meant to inspire and to be shared. To this end, and with the support of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, grades 7 to 12 curriculum will be available, for use and downloading from the Hawai'i Digital Library (Ulukau.org).



Hōkūle'a moored in Honokanai'a Bay



Training at Moa'ulaiki with (L-R) Lāna'i, Moloka'i and West Maui in the background

How we spent our summer vacations

Meet the interns

Arianna Feinberg **Columbia University**

A sophomore in sustainable development, Arianna Feinberg interned with the KIRC through Hawai'i Youth Conservation Corp's Hana Hou Program (HYCC) – where she also interned previously. "Throughout that earlier summer my eyes were opened to the reality of the destruction of Hawaii's ecology – the red, blood-like soil bleeds into the ocean from erosion," Arianna said. "With that initial visit, my passion for helping Hawaii's environment was reconfirmed. When given the opportunity to spend this summer on Kaho'olawe, I was excited and honored. And after more than a month there I felt more connected with the Hawaiian culture than ever in my life. The people on Kaho'olawe share the mindset of wanting to give back to the land; they understand that to be *pono* we must *mālama 'āina*. However littered with kiawe and other invasive species, the island is still breathtakingly gorgeous and leaves me in awe of Kanaloa's living power. I have learned so much about the Hawaiian culture, land restoration, and myself and I am extremely thankful for this experience."

Natashja Tong **University of Hawai'i-Mānoa**



Arianna Feinberg (l) and Natashja Tong

A Hawaiian Studies and Environmental Science major, Natashja Tong also previously interned through the HYCC Hana Hou program, but first visited Kaho'olawe when she was 16. "Each Hawaiian island is beautiful," she said, "but there is something about the harsh elements on

Kaho'olawe, how the plants grow against the wind, the sun and the hardpan, that shows the true *'a'ali'i kū makani* (standing in wind). As a student and Native Hawaiian I see the island through two perspectives: learning both the scientific and Hawaiian specifics of native plants, as well as the island's cultural and historical significance. The magnetism of the island is so strong, its physical and spiritual scars so real, that my experience has inspired me to pursue restoration work in my hometown of Wai'ānae, O'ahu. One amazing experience found us lucky enough to spend a night aboard Hōkūle'a, with the crew showing us different star lines and constellations, and telling us how Kaho'olawe is important to navigators. Restoration of Kaho'olawe brought me here, but it is the people that I got to know that made each experience complete."

Tyler Hassig **Clemson University**



Cheryl King(l) and Tyler Hassig

A nature enthusiast and avid outdoorsman, Tyler will graduate in December 2010 with a bachelor's degree in Environment and Natural Resources focusing on Conservation Biology with an eye to working in wetlands restoration. In his quest to gain field experience, he interned with the Ocean Program with Cheryl King who took the budding

environmentalist under her wing. "I learned so much – how to tag a Hawksbill sea turtle, identify/record Hawaiian Monk seals, community outreach on the harm of marine debris, techniques for dealing with marine strandings and I even crewed aboard the 'Ōhua," Tyler said. "I feel I've learned much about the importance of culture and science existing together and the necessity of hard work to accomplish big goals. But, I think I was most surprised by the generosity and kindness of the KIRC staff who guided me, were quick to feed me, give me a ride, and teach me a little Pidgin to help me be small-kine "cool".

Stephanie Wood **Edmonds Community College, Washington**



Stephanie Wood

While attending Edmonds, Stephanie participated in a service learning project that included marine resources, watershed stewardship, and fisheries enhancement and gave her the basic skills to pursue occupations in environmental restoration. "I came to Kaho'olawe for the first time this past January," Stephanie said,

"and, honestly, had little idea what to expect when applying for my internship through AmeriCorps but my interest in anthropology has only grown since I first stepped off the 'Ōhua and onto Kaho'olawe's shore at Honokanai'a. Here the practicalities of a full-scale, continuous restoration program have become clearer: ordnance identification, insight into the scientific process, data collection – from 'opihi surveys, Monk seal tagging, statistical feral cat surveys – all came with an internship on Kaho'olawe. And, when thinking about the impact that Kaho'olawe provides for the Hawaiian culture and scientific study, I am thrilled to have taken an active part. My time with the KIRC sadly comes to an end in October and the experience has exceeded any anticipation. After my internship, I will pursue further education in physical anthropology and sincerely hope to continue working in the restoration field.

Volunteer Program



– photo courtesy Kai Malie Ellis-Lui-Kwan

Kaho‘olawe continues to heal, thanks to all the hard work of our volunteers. Mahalo to all.

April 1 – June 30 Volunteers

Kristin Carbone	Peleti Mauga, Jr.
Susanna Cheng	Punalehua Mauga
Norma Clothier	Joseph McFarlin
Shannon Cuadro	David Moore
Chalan Cunningham	Marcus Morton
Juliane Darty	Greg Nauretz
Sarah DeRiggi	Mariann Olson
Rosalyn Dias	Karen Otter
Julie Duck	Kūhea Paracuelles
Peter Dunlevy	Jay Pennimen
Michele Franke	Amber Petroelje
Roderick Fraser	Jeffrey Pflumm
Anna Garner	Sidney Piosalan
Alapaki Gomes	Jennifer Pletz
Christin Grassmick	Mike Rineer
Paul Hooper	Janice Savage
Amber Iverson	Thomas Savage
John Ivey	Paul Skarbo
Ashley Justice	Adriana Smith
Ka‘imiana Kahiau	Kraig Smith
Von-Alan Kaleleiki	John Soliven
Kalani Kamai	Jonathon Stewart
Wilson Kanaka‘ole	Jefferson Stillwell
Barak Kaneali‘i	Patricia Stillwell
Sean Kelley	Lance Suanburg
Brad Kiett	Matthew Sullivan
MiQe Klemme	Julie Sutton
Anastasia Kniatt	Tad Vander Veur
Christian Kozama	Mark Wasser
Grant Laimana	Lauren White
Heather Lee	JD Wyatt
Palepoi Mauga	Tony Wynne
Peleti Mauga	

Hawai‘i Community College Jr. Forest TEAM
 Hawai‘i Nature Center - ‘Āiao
 Hawai‘i Youth Conservation Corps:
 Hilo A, Hilo B, Kaua‘i A, & Kaua‘i B
 Kamehameha Schools, Kapālama - Hui Lama (pictured)
 Maryknoll High School
 Moloka‘i High School MEPO Club
 Montessori - Maui 8th Grade
 Nā Pua No‘eau – Maui
 Pacific Whale Foundation



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA

INTRODUCING THE SOUVENIR KIRC STAINLESS SPORT BOTTLE

You’ll be ready for the outdoors with our stylish 24 oz. brushed stainless steel sport bottle with its classic deep blue KIRC logo. With your tax-deductible gift of \$45 or more to the Kaho‘olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund, we’ll send you this classic KIRC sport bottle (free priority shipping included).

Or, you may purchase a KIRC stainless sport bottle for \$20 (free parcel post included; for priority shipment, please add \$5).

Either way, you’ll be contributing to two great causes: Helping to rid the world of plastic water bottles and showing your aloha for and support of the cultural and environmental restoration of Kanaloa Kaho‘olawe.



Number	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 Gift (free bottle & priority shipping) * \$	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 purchase (free Parcel Post)	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> - add \$5 for priority shipping	\$ _____
Total Enclosed:	\$ _____

Send your name, mailing address, and your check payable to the

Kaho‘olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund

and mail, with this form, to
 811 Kolu Street, Suite 201, Wailuku, Hawai‘i 96793
 Telephone (808) 243-5020 Fax (808) 243-5885

* The KIRC is a 170(c)(1), authorized, per IRS Publication 557, to receive tax-deductible contributions to programs, such as those listed above, that serve a public purpose. Donors should always consult with their tax advisors before claiming any tax-deductible charitable contributions.

KO HEMA LAMALAMA
A newsletter of the Kaho'olawe
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KIRC Wish List*

New or used, it doesn't matter as long as it works.

The KIRC main office is seeking a heavy-duty paper shredder (about \$1,000 new, but used would do the job). KIRC shreds all excess office paper (and our little shredder can't handle the volume), which is bagged and sent to Kaho'olawe where our Restoration Program and volunteers compost it along with food scraps. Once composted, it is spread around the base of fragile seedlings to reduce evaporation, maintain even soil temperatures, prevent erosion, control weeds, and enrich the soil as it decomposes, creating mini-ecosystems that protect the plants, break up the hardpan and allow our native plants to sink their roots into living soil.

**Note: the KIRC is a 170(c)(1) government agency authorized per IRS Publication 557 to receive tax-deductible contributions to its public purpose programs.*



Mahalo donors!

From Kihei, Maui: Mahalo piha to the **Leslie Granat Foundation**, and Leslie Granat herself, for a most generous contribution dedicated to our Kaho'olawe Restoration Program, and also to **James "JD" Wyatt** for his kind contribution to the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust. Mahalo to the staff and management of **Walmart-Maui**, especially Co-Manager **Herbie Go**, for the contribution of a Walmart gift certificate which was used to purchase much needed supplies. And, finally, to **Rhiannon Chandler** of the Community Work Day Program who generously donated paint for the sustainable renovation of the Honokanai'a Kauhale volunteer hut.

Mahalo Wish List contributors

Mahalo piha to two of our favorite office volunteers, **Sue Moore** and **Judy Duvall** of Lahaina, Maui, who graciously funded a portable projection screen for KIRC outreach programs and presentations. Mahalo to KIRC staffers: Grant Specialist **Jackie Harp** for her donation of crutches to our on-island Medical Supply Hut, and to UXO/Safety Specialist **Bart Maybee** for his contribution of paint for the Honokanai'a Kauhale volunteer hut renovation. Special mahalo to **Lei Ishikawa** of **Na Pua No'eau Maui** who, along with her volunteers, donated books for our Kaho'olawe Education Center library as well as buckets, gloves, safety glasses, bungees, ratchet straps, dust masks, trash bags and ear plugs to the KIRC's Operations and Restoration Program – a whole bunch of wishes at one time. *Mahalo piha!*

Mahalo to special supporters

Maui emergency medical technician and instructor **Chris Gilbert** has been a valuable resource and great supporter of KIRC/PKO efforts for many years. In and out of the Reserve, Chris has provided extensive training, volunteered his time, and answered the call regarding health and safety questions for KIRC & PKO. His guidance and fresh perspective have always been greatly respected and appreciated. Mahalo a nui loa e Chris!

Mahalo to state senators **J. Kalani English** and **Shan Tsutsui** and Rep. **Mele Carroll** – Maui County (and Kaho'olawe) representatives in the Senate and House of Representatives respectively – who so kindly and energetically supported the KIRC during the 2009 Legislative Session.

And, to **Maui Printing Company** principals **Robert Campbell**, **David Tucker** and Customer Service Representative **Tanya Cress** for repeatedly donating in-kind printing and graphic services to the KIRC over the past two years. *Mahalo piha!*

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