



Mālama Mānoa

N E W S L E T T E R

Volume 28, No. 1 / Spring 2020

General Membership Meeting – Honolulu’s Parks & Playgrounds: A Brief History

by *Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director, Historic Hawai‘i Foundation*

The history of Ala Moana Park and other historic parks will be part of a presentation on Honolulu’s Parks and Playgrounds at Mālama Mānoa’s General Membership meeting on Wednesday, April 8, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. at the Honolulu Japanese Seventh-Day Adventist Church (2655 Mānoa Road). The presentation is free and open to the public.

Honolulu has a rich history of establishing parks, playgrounds and open areas for community gathering and recreation. Ms. Kiersten Faulkner will give a brief history of urban parks, including the importance of the playground movement and some of the notable landscape and design features in historic parks from 1843, through the post-World War II era.

Kiersten Faulkner has been the executive director of Historic Hawai‘i Foundation (HHF) since 2006. HHF is a statewide non-profit organization that provides advocacy, education and technical assistance for historic preservation in the Hawaiian Islands. Kiersten oversees all aspects of its preservation programs, strategic planning, business lines, and operational matters. She holds a Master of Arts in Urban and Environmental Policy from Tufts University, and she is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Kiersten was a board member for Mālama Mānoa from 2007 to 2013.

Kiersten will provide an overview of the early parks, including Thomas Square and Kapi‘olani, and the early-20th



Ala Moana Park Banyan Courtyard. Courtesy of HHF.

century efforts to establish parks and playgrounds as part of the Free Kindergarten and Children’s Aid movement. The presentation will also cover key landscape and design features from the art deco movement and the importance of the New Deal in shaping the parks. The impact of World War II and its aftermath set the stage for parks today.

REMINDER

Mālama Mānoa Spring Membership Meeting

Wednesday, April 8
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Honolulu Japanese Seventh-Day
Adventist Church
(2655 Mānoa Road)

MISSION STATEMENT

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

The President's Corner



Thalya DeMott

Kōlea: Pacific Golden Plover in Hawai'i

Hawai'i's cherished avian visitors from Alaska arrive in early September, announcing the autumn season as they occupy and defend their foraging territory of shorelines or mowed green spaces teeming with protein-rich invertebrates. During their eight-month stay, the brown and gold mottled birds feast, molt, and change

their plain plumage to the striking contrast of a bold white body stripe separating black chest and face from brightly spotted brown wings and back.

Flocking together and then departing en masse for arctic Alaska in late April, their precise return migration route of 3,000 nonstop flying miles burns up half their body weight as they travel in energy-conserving V-patterns at speeds of 50-180mph for three continuous days and nights. In the short Alaskan summer of 24-hour daylight, the monogamous breeding pairs reoccupy their same ground-nesting sites and chicks hatch within a month. The parents incubate the eggs but do not feed their young, which can run and forage soon after hatching and quickly become agile fliers.

After the new fledglings watch the adults head for Hawai'i without them, they eat almost constantly for another month to build strength for their first arduous journey together. These juveniles navigate using instinct as a guide to cross the open ocean without rest, as there is no land on the



direct route, and if Kōlea land on water, they are unable to resume flight.

These petite half-pound birds have an impressive wingspan of 17-24" and can live from 15-20 years. Kōlea are indigenous to Hawai'i and have been a protected species since 1941. A diet rich in insects puts Kōlea at risk of contact with harmful herbicides and pesticides used to treat lawns, golf courses, parks and other green areas. Please keep in mind the safety and protection of this precious and beneficial species.

Aloha,
Thalya DeMott
President, Mālama Mānoa

WE ARE UPDATING OUR DATABASE In an effort to "Go Green," we are encouraging Mālama Mānoa members to begin receiving their newsletters through email rather than printed copy. If you are currently receiving this newsletter in printed copy and would like to switch to email, please contact us at (808) 988-6181, or email us at malamamanoa12@gmail.com and provide your current email address. Mahalo!

Mānoa Laundry

Open 24/7

manoalaundry.com
(808) 285-2752

Conveniently located at Mānoa Marketplace!
2752 Woodlawn Drive

The Mālama Mānoa newsletter is published two times per year.

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www.malamaomanoa.org

More Trees Please!

by Vanessa Distajo

Lining the streets and ridges of Mānoa Valley, large, lush, green trees sway in the cool breeze. These trees lavish us with many meaningful blessings: oxygen, shade, fruit, wood, and beauty. They contribute to our sense of place, offer comfort and bring peace. Thus, one of the best actions we can take to ensure a pleasant future is to plant more trees.

In order to facilitate this locally for Earth Day, volunteers have been busy bees propagating trees on three work days led by the 1,000 Trees Giveaway's Chief Organizer extraordinaire, Dr. Jeremy Lam. An abundant array, including kukui, hau, avocado, lychee, macadamia, banana, guava, papaya, naupaka, plumeria, hibiscus and kalo will be available for FREE. In addition, other local growers have pledged special contributions: Ward Kashiwa is donating kou, milo, wili wili and koa, while John Carl Watson, the founder of the 'Ōhia Legacy Initiative, is offering 'ōhia lehua.

The big event will be held on Saturday, April 25th, 2020, from 8am-noon. Mānoa Marketplace will be the venue, graciously hosted by Alexander & Baldwin for the second time. Please join us to receive one FREE tree per family, sponsored by Mālama Mānoa, Mānoa Outdoor Circle and Council Member Ann Kobayashi.



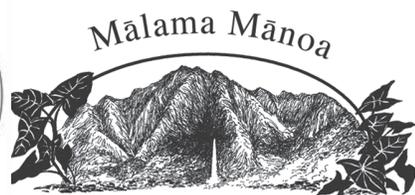
Che Silvert, Maura Okamoto, Maile Bingham and Gerry Ralston having fun propagating plants.



Instagram

@malamamanoa

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Sponsor

The 1,000 Tree Giveaway

Celebrate Earth Day! Receive one free tree or plant per family.
Help us keep our community clean, green and beautiful!

Saturday, April 25, 2020

Mānoa Marketplace
2752 Woodlawn Drive
8:00am to Noon

Preservation and Stewardship of Kamānele Park, Mānoa

by Rosanna Thurman, M.A.

The pyramidal rock and stacked-stone structures at Kamānele Park will be preserved for perpetuity. A Preservation Plan is being written by the archaeological firm, OASES, with assistance through a Mālama Mānoa Educational Grant and close involvement with Mānoa community members. Eighteen vegetation clearing and service-learning events have been held at Kamānele Park. As the southern hillside of the park was uncovered by vegetation, a site complex was mapped and documented. It has been designated State Inventory of Historic Places (SIHP) #50-80-14-8768 and includes a prominent natural lava tumulus at the base of the hillside with multiple constructed stone terraces, a c-shape structure, and a rock shelter situated along the hill slope.

City maps of Kamānele Park dating from the 1960s label the large lava tumulus as a “heiau” (traditional Hawaiian place of worship). Mythology and historic accounts attest to the site's importance as a locale where Kahalaopuna the beautiful Ka u'i-o-mānoa resided, where a stone was

procured for a plaque to rest on the grounds of 'Iolani Palace, where the last reigning monarch of Hawai'i, Queen Lili'uokalani, attended the dedication ceremony for the park, and Mānoa residents have enjoyed and cherished.

The Preservation Plan will provide guidance on future conservation of the site, including protection measures during any future park improvements, as well as a long-term vision. The plan will address methods to promote respectful treatment, the process for maintenance, ways to deal with potential trash accumulation and homeless encampments, and continuation of educational service learning. An interpretive sign will be installed to showcase the importance of the site and appropriate behaviors. An earthen trail will extend through the site for easy viewing. Landscaping is proposed to include the planting of several native mānele trees, in reference to Princess Ka'ua'umokuokamānele (Princess Kamānele). Thus, the site will again receive its due admiration.



On February 3, 2020, Mālama Mānoa board members visited the heiau at Kamānele Park with the lead archaeologist from OASES, members of the Hawaiian Civic Club, and the staff of the Mānoa Heritage Center.

Red Hill Fuel Tanks Update

by Helen Nakano

Spurred by headlines in the *Star Advertiser* on February 11 regarding Senate Bill 2774, which would prohibit the Navy from operating its Red Hill fuel tanks after January 1, 2028, the Mālama Mānoa Board voted to send letters supporting this Senate Bill.

Explained President Thalya DeMott, “While it is unusual for us to speak out on subjects that do not directly impact Mānoa Valley, the potential pollution of our fresh water, used by over 400,000 residents from Moanalua to Hawai‘i Kai, is too perilous to remain silent. The 20 underground fuel tanks on Red Hill are aging and leaking. They were built during WWII. As recently as January 2014, the Navy reported a 27,000 gallon leak at Tank 5; and, a newly released study shows that the Red Hill tanks have a 27.6% chance of leaking 30,000 gallons annually.”

Letters supporting the Bill were sent to our U.S. Congressional delegation and the Governor. “The issues at Red Hill affect everyone on O‘ahu”, said Helen Nakano, Mālama Mānoa advisor, “On an island, we are all connected.”

Our concern is that these tanks sit just 100 feet above O‘ahu’s sole source aquifer. The Environmental Protection

Agency and the State Department of Health have not been able to sign off on any mitigation plan. The Navy is requesting a further delay to 2045 to remove the tanks at Red Hill. Yet, they have already removed similar WWII underground fuel tanks in California and Washington State



Red Hill Tank 14 Liner Backside Corrosion

SB 2774 had already passed out of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment the week before when two Mālama advisors, Joe Ferraro and Helen Nakano, were carrying the support letters to members of the Senate on Tuesday, February 18. Before they

completed their task, they were informed that Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair of the Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health Committee, which had scheduled a hearing including the amended SB2774, had removed the bill from the scheduled decision-making on Thursday.

As of this newsletter’s deadline, hopes of bringing the bill to a vote this session have dimmed and the bill will probably not be heard until the next legislative session in 2021.



Red Hill Fuel Tanks vs Aloha Tower, Image Courtesy Sean Connelly, After Oceanic (www.ao-projects.com).



President Thalya DeMott, center, presents Certificates of Recognition to outgoing Board Members (left to right: Leslie Uptain, Vi Coito, Thalya DeMott, George Arizumi, and Helen Taufasau)

Welcome New Board Member Dale Gilmartin

Dale has lived in Mānoa for well over 30 years, beginning with childhood residence in Faculty Housing at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She currently lives in the Mānoa home where she and her husband, Nikolai Turetsky, raised their two college-age sons, one of whom is now a junior at UH Mānoa. As the granddaughter of volcanologist Dr. Ruy Finch, who arrived on Hawai'i Island in 1923, Dale has a deep appreciation for nature in all its glory!



Her grandmother, Margaret Finch, taught elementary school at Volcano Village and Hilo. Her mother, Dr. Amy Jean Gilmartin, received her PhD. in Botany from UH Mānoa where her father, oceanographer Dr. Malvern Gilmartin, was a faculty member. Dale shares her parents' passion for plants and the ocean. She has a double major in Marine Science and Journalism from UH Mānoa where her

husband currently works in the Oceanography Department.

Dale has written extensively on topics from science to popular culture for publications including *Honolulu Magazine*, *Malamalama*, *Island Scene*, *Midweek* and others. Dale has also worked as a hyperbaric technician, 8th grade science teacher and SCUBA instructor, to name a few of her surprisingly varied experiences. A self-described "party girl" who loves to dance, she says, "I'm very honored to have been asked to serve on the Board, and I look forward to serving my community in the best way I can!"

Mālama Mānoa Seeking New Board Members for 2020

Mālama Mānoa is seeking a few new board members who are enthusiastic, energetic, and ready to add their skills to our active board.

If interested in learning more, please email lindalegrande2243@gmail.com.

Oral Histories of Mānoa's Finest

by Harry Spiegelberg

The oral history venture of Mālama Mānoa is thriving, with the most recent history taken from Council Member Ann Kobayashi. Here is a short portion from that oral history.



Ann is the third generation of her family who arrived from Tokyo and first lived on Maui. Her grandfather was an engineer for AMFAC, and her father was a dentist. Ann grew up living in the Kaka'ako area of Honolulu and she attended Roosevelt High School. After high school, Ann attended Pembroke University and Northwestern

University. Interestingly, her brother manages his wife's family ownership of Like Like Drive Inn on Keeaumoku Street, and Ann's son, Dale, is a member of the State House of Representatives.

Some 50 years ago, Ann and her husband set up residence in Mānoa and raised their daughter and two sons near

Paradise Park, where the children enjoyed swimming and playing in the clear rain-fed streams.

Ann loves working with people and helping wherever she can. As a result, she has served on the City Council for over 16 years and also served in the Senate for 14 years, making her political career a span of 30 years. With retirement at the end of this year when her council seat tenure will be up, Ann wants to continue to serve the people of Mānoa Valley.

If you would like to read Ann Kobayashi's complete oral history, please go to malamaomanoa.org. If you would consider having your own life history in Mānoa documented, please contact Harry Spiegelberg at 988-3285.

Does Your Community Project Need Funding?

Deadline: October 1

Do you know of a worthy Mānoa community effort that would benefit from financial support? Mālama Mānoa helps non-profit organizations, educational institutions and community groups through our educational grant program. If your project aligns with the mission of Mālama Mānoa, we welcome your application. Submit a proposal describing how the funds will be used to increase knowledge about Mānoa, enhance its built or natural environment, and/or educate or celebrate our diverse residents.

Since the year 2000, we have given awards for worthy community projects, including funding for a preservation plan for Kāmanele Park, Lyon Arboretum's inclusive education initiatives, Scout Troop 33 Eagle Scout projects, Mānoa School's collaborative mural design, and more. We look forward to hearing about your project!

Awards range from \$500 to \$2000. To obtain an application or for more information, please contact Audrey Tanaka at audrey@wallpaperhawaii.com.



Mālama Mānoa Educational Grant recipients at our Fall 2019 General Membership Meeting. Radha Martin of Oceanic Archeological Science and Educational Services, Kahōkū Lindsey-Asing and Kehau Brown of Pūnana Leo O Mānoa, and University of Hawai'i's Dr. Brett Oppegaard.



Mālama Mānoa
P.O. Box 61961
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Mānoa Merchandise

We have lovely Mālama Mānoa tote bags, hats, and shirts. We also have a new shipment of short sleeve, cotton T shirts! Call or email to check on inventory. All funds directly support Mālama Mānoa community activities. Email malamamanoa12@gmail.com or call 988-6181.

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Don't Miss These Upcoming Events!

Spring General Membership Meeting

- Wednesday, April 8
- 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
- Honolulu Japanese Seventh-Day Adventist Church (2655 Mānoa Road)

1,000 Tree Giveaway

- Saturday, April 25
- 8 a.m. – 12 noon
- Mānoa Marketplace (Farmers' Market area)

Stream Cleanup Day

- Saturday, May 2
- 10 a.m. – 12 noon
- Woodlawn Bridge (across from Longs)

Community Calendar

Mālama Mānoa Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at Mānoa Innovation Center, 2800 Woodlawn Drive, 6 p.m. The public is welcome. Call or leave a message at 988-6181 to confirm location.

The Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7 meets on the first Wednesday of the month at Noelani School, 7 p.m. Contact K. Russell Ho, kho4@honolulu.gov or 768-3715, to confirm location.