

# THE FRIENDS OF HE'EIA

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER • DECEMBER 2005 • VOL 4 (4)

## 2005 Marks Great Strides for He'eia Community

Mahalo nui loa for your continued support of The Friends of He'eia State Park. Because of people like you, we are able to provide educational and cultural programs to our keiki and the community. Over this past year we have been busy learning, kayaking, snorkeling and networking.

2005 has been a year of renewal and reawakening for us. True to our mission of education, conservation and preservation, the Friends have accomplished a great deal.

Our education program has been the primary focus of our reinvention. We have continued to provide environmental education programs for grades K-6 in marine science and ethnobotany of the Hawaiians, and have also created new programs which include activities that truly emphasize the importance and beauty of this particular area. This additional curricula allows students to explore the biodiversity and ahupua'a (watershed) ecology that makes He'eia State Park such a special place. In concert with these programs, we have also partnered with Kama'aina Kids, who provided ED-ventures this summer. These ED-ventures combine marine science with snorkeling and kayaking. This unique experience enabled these children to get first-hand experience with reef life and the rhythm of the ocean.

In addition to enhancing the existing curriculum we are also expanding our impact in terms of the age range of the keiki with whom we work. We have welcomed in *Tutu and Me*, a Hawaiian preschool that emphasizes the importance of family relationships in a child's learning. Every Tuesday and Thursday morning we are greeted with their songs, artwork and bustling little feet. Inspired by the preschool, we have also started expanding our field trip opportunities to pre-kindergarten ages.

opportunities to pre-kindergarten ages. On the other end of the spectrum, we have developed a new curriculum for grades 9-12. This curriculum explores the water quality of He'eia ahupua'a. It offers hands on activities to complement the concepts that the students are learning in their science classrooms. It is intended to provide the students with a sense of stewardship as well as an appreciation for land use practices developed by the early Hawaiians.



Educational programs at The Friends of He'eia State Park aren't just for our keiki. This past year we hosted two teacher workshops highlighting educational opportunities on Kaneohe Bay. Teachers in these workshops explored the reef from the park, on Coconut Island and in Windward Community College's laboratories.

In addition to our education efforts, we have had the pleasure of hosting Kuhai Halau O Kawaikapuakalani Pa Olapa Kahiko and Ka'Alu Ehukai. The former holds free hula classes on Monday and Wednesday evenings while the latter holds free classes Tuesday

nights. The Taiji group also practices on Monday and Friday mornings. (For more information on our classes, please see Page 3.)

The Friends of He'eia partnered with HPU and Windward Community College to measure the water quality and fish populations of He'eia Stream and reef. Their findings will be available in our final report sponsored by the EPA and the State Department of Health.

To complement these monitoring efforts, bi-weekly workdays provided opportunities for the community to actively participate in stream and habitat restoration. And, to ensure that our joint message of conservation and preservation is heard, we hosted a three-part lecture series on the importance of clean water to the public.

We are proud that we managed to accomplish all of these programs, as well as the opportunities for our community, despite receiving no State funding. Currently, all of our revenue come from grants, membership dues and donations from ordinary people just like you. We literally couldn't do any of this without the help of each person or organization who has contributed. Regardless of this generosity, we are still struggling to afford to continue these programs. Won't you please help us by donating a contribution?

Thank you to all of our loyal supporters and future donors. We wish you all a very healthy and happy Holiday Season.

**MELE KALIKIMAKA & HAUOLI MAKAHIKI HOU!!!**

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## A Special Aloha to KUMUHULA MAPUANA RINGLER

Longtime FHSP supporter, Kumu Hula Mapuana Ringler passed away September 23, 2005. She began her hula training at a young age under the tutelage of Lahoma Heyer, and she continued her study of hula under Sam Nae`ole, George Na`ope, George Holokai, and Aloma Kataoka. In February 1978, she began her training under Kumu Hula Kawaikapuokalani Hewett here on the grounds of He`eia State Park and for the past 28 years, she has received her spiritual guidance from him.

As a dancer in Hewett's halau, she performed on stages all over our islands, as well as in California, Tahiti, New Zealand, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Russia and Japan. Known for her energetic performance of "Aerobacise", as well as for her gracefulness in "Ka Wai Lehua `A`ala Ka Honua", she was an inspiration to many.

While she taught hula under Hewett's guidance for almost 20 years, she formally started her own halau, Kuhai Halau O Mapuana Pa `Olapa Kahiko, in 1998. Her performing group met on Mondays and her beginning class met on Wednesdays here at the park. She was an accomplished chanter and singer/musician who was always ready and willing to share these gifts when called upon. Her halau often performed



called upon. Her halau often performed at our annual meetings.

Since 1990, she was employed as the Elderly Services Assistant for Alu Like's Ke Ola Pono No Na Kupuna Project. She was able to incorporate hula, mele and spirituality into her daily work with the kupuna.

Every August, Hewett's halau has a ho`ike or hula exhibition at Castle High School's Ron Bright Auditorium. For quite a few years, she has served as the coordinator of this event, and her tireless efforts have greatly contributed to its success. This past August, she was honored by the halau for her longstanding service to the community and to the halau.

She was able to touch many lives with her music, her hula, her laughter, her spirituality, and her generosity. Our fondest aloha and mahalo to Kumu Hula Mapuana Ringler.

By Pat Gooch

## The Friends of He`eia Ohana

### Steve Croll



We have received so many compliments regarding the improvements to the Visitor's Center. Yet, the person most responsible for these achievements is a shy, humble guy in the background.

Our featured ohana member this issue is Steve Croll. He comes over on Thursdays and helps us fix, repair and improve our buildings.

He is a man of many talents and is always willing to tackle a new job. Steve is a local boy from Leeward O`ahu and credits his interest in community service and helping to his Mom, Norma. He lives in Nu`uanu with his wife, Beatriz and his son, Alex and daughter, Lauren.

He is a strong proponent of education and assists with his son's classes. Like so many wonderful volunteers, Steve is interested in supporting the Friends of He`eia's educational programs for children.

Please accept our heartfelt appreciation, Steve for all that you do behind the scenes to help the Friends operate a safe and beautiful place to serve the community!



#### **Board of Directors**

*Joan Malama, Chairperson*

*Andy Scott, Secretary/Treasurer*

*Dr. Gary Stice, Vice-Chairperson*

*Gene Naipo, Director*

*Diana Burg, Director*

*David Kahiapo, Director*

*Bobby Puakea, Director*

*Bud Henry, Director*

#### **Executive Director**

*Carole McLean*



## STREAM RESTORATION

Great Service Project Opportunity!



Please come out and support The Friends as we complete a major step in our Stream Recovery Project. We are graciously seeking volunteers to help stack and chip mangrove as well as plant native flora in its place. Embrace this chance to spend a day this holiday season with family and friends working together to bring the mouth of He'eia Stream back to life. It truly will prove to be a rewarding experience for all. Dates are scheduled for:

- Saturday, January 7, 2006
- Saturday, January 14, 2006
- Saturday, January 21, 2006

The times for all three work days will be from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM when refreshments will be served to show our appreciation.

Feel free to call 247-3156 with further inquiries. Accommodations can most certainly be made for large groups!

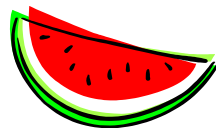
## BANQUET HALL RENTALS



Need a place for your function? Our banquet hall accommodates up to 300 people and is available for rental on Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays. Call 247-3156 for more information.

## OPEN ARMS @ THE OPEN MARKET

If you happen to come by the park on a Sunday between the hours of 9 AM & 2 PM you are in for a real treat. Upon entering the park grounds one is bombarded with tables full of color and beauty, with vendors selling everything from planted orchids, to fruit and vegetables, to handmade crafts and fresh cut flowers. But even more intense than the marvelous items up for sale are the wonderful people who make the Open Market what it is. The kind, friendly vendors have helped turn the market into a place for family and friends on Sundays to buy what they need and talk story with really great people.



And a special mahalo needs to go out to The Friends' very own Sunny Alvarez, who coordinates the event every week. Her upbeat attitude and kind soul has woven its way into quilt that retains the warmth of the park every day.

Self-guided educational adventures by kayak are also available through Sunni on Sundays. She can usually be found sitting at the table of FREEBIES sponsored by The Friends, for all members of the community to come and trade something old for a new treasure. Lemonade and smiles are also served here.

If you've never been, or just haven't visited in a while, the view is breathtaking and the spirit that runs through this magical place is bright and inspiring.

## TAIJI CLASSES

Taiji classes are offered on Monday and Friday mornings from 9-11AM. To further inquire or sign up please contact Dieter Rungt at 372-8132.

**TO ADVERTISE YOUR  
COMMUNITY EVENT, PLEASE  
CALL 247-3156**



**FREE!**

## HULA CLASSES

**Adult (Beginner)** Mondays 6 pm - 7:15 pm. To register please contact Pat Gooch on phone: 234-1155.

**Adult (Advanced)** Mondays 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm. To register please contact Pat Gooch on phone: 234-1155.

**Keiki (Advanced)** Wednesdays 6 pm - 7:15 pm. To register please contact Dawna Agao on phone: 348-4384.

**Mixed (Great Mother/Daughter Class!)** Wednesdays 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm. To register please contact Pat Gooch on phone: 234-1155.

## EDUCATIONAL KAYAK TOURS!



Take a self-guided kayak tour of Kaneohe Bay and learn about the reef system, its inhabitants and the historical significance of the area. A wonderful experience alone or with friends and family.

For further information or to make reservations please call the Friends at 247-3156.

## HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

On Sunday, December 11th, the Friends of He'eia are hosting a Craft Fair from 9 AM-2 PM.

Join us for a day of fun where you can enjoy food, entertainment and shop for holiday gifts. Santa Clause has managed to fit us into his busy schedule in order to be here to hear wish lists and take pictures with the keiki.

Booth space is still available both outside and in the hall. Feel free to call the Friends at 247-3156 with further questions or to reserve a space.



We look forward to seeing you then!

THE FRIENDS OF HE'EIA STATE PARK  
PO BOX 698  
KANEHOE, HAWAII 96744

**SUPPORT OUR VISION OF EDUCATION, PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION**



As a member you will receive discounts on hall rentals and purchases in the gift shop. You will also receive our quarterly newsletter, invitations to seminars, member's activities and much more!

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Membership Sign Up

| Sign up for:                        | Annual Price |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate  | \$500.00     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family     | \$50.00      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$25.00      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior     | \$10.00      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student    | \$5.00       |

I would like to make a donation of: \_\_\_\_\_  
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I would like to volunteer, area of interest: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Please send this coupon with your check to:  
FHSP, Memberships, PO Box 698, Kaneohe HI 96744*

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