



Aloha LKOC Members and Supporters,

In recent months, COVID-19 has had a profound and devastating effect on all our communities in Hawaii. However, we are looking forward to resuming our normal activities when it is safe to do so, and we can all take heart in this encouraging message from The Outdoor Circle Executive Director, Winston Welch.

“Our organization carries on a legacy of strength and resilience that started with our founding members. At times of uncertainty like this, let’s be steadfast in the knowledge that this time will pass, and we will come out of it with a greater appreciation of life and awareness for all the beauty around us.”

In this newsletter you will find articles about how LKOC, despite the pandemic, is continuing its mission of beautification and advocacy, and how members are still finding joy and beauty around them through the rewarding activity of growing and nurturing plants. And, as always, we have a fascinating ‘Flashback’, this time about our work creating the Aikahi Park Triangle in 1980. During the pandemic, our “Learning to Grow” students at the Women’s Community Correctional Center have still been producing hydroponic lettuce crops for Foodland, even though the facility is in lockdown. This is a wonderful testament to the great job our LKOC volunteers have done in providing training and expertise. Kudos also to the prison staff for supporting the nursery in our absence!

All of us at LKOC so appreciate your continued commitment to our efforts at preserving and enhancing the natural beauty around us that we hold so dear. We hope you all stay safe and well as we look forward to the holidays.

Mahalo for your support!

Diane Harding
LKOC President



LKOC Advocacy in the News

Kawainui Street Affordable Housing Project



The Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC) has long supported responsible development in the Kailua community and on the Windward side of Oahu. In recent months, a large four-story, 73-unit, affordable housing project, with 53 on-site parking stalls, has been proposed on Kawainui Street, in a residential neighborhood near Kailua's central business district. LKOC stood in opposition to the Kawainui Street Affordable Housing Project in large

part due to its very problematic location. It would be directly situated on the corner of Oneawa and Kawainui Streets at an already extremely congested and dangerous main vehicular access into and out of Kailua. Due to an overwhelming outpouring of community concern about the project, the City Council voted to deny the application.

Vacation Rentals in our Neighborhoods

In keeping with our long-term support for curtailing the proliferation of illegal vacation rentals in our community, LKOC submitted testimony in support of City Council Bill 50. This bill was subsequently passed and now recently enacted which delays the issuance of legal permits for short-term rentals, including hosted bed and breakfast homes, until April 2021.

Fernhurst Halfway House Gets a Reprieve

In recent months, LKOC heard about the impending closure of Fernhurst Halfway House in Honolulu, a facility which provides an important work furlough program for woman inmates leaving prison. Fernhurst has a proven track record of setting up women for success and has been shown to reduce recidivism dramatically. In LKOC's work with incarcerated women at the Women's Community Correctional Center for over 20 years, we have seen firsthand the irreplaceable value that Fernhurst provides. We, and others in the community, strongly urged the Department of Public Safety to reconsider its decision. A legislative bill was passed to provide funding, but errors in the bill's drafting resulted in a veto. However, the Governor has since issued a directive mandating that the facility remain a funded community-based program, ensuring that the program is secure as logistics are worked out.

Kapa'a Light Industrial Park Expansion

LKOC received notice of the publication of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the "Kapa'a Light Industrial Park Expansion" project located in Kailua on Quarry Road. Testimony was submitted to the Department of Planning and Permitting asking that the previously accepted, but not fully implemented, 2011 EIS be re-evaluated. Given that substantial changes were being proposed, LKOC asked if it is still valid with respect to "size, scope, location, intensity, use or timing" and in the best interests of Hawaii's residents and the environment.

Beautification Projects Continue During the Pandemic

Landscaping is a dynamic entity, and we sometimes must change our design over time to meet the needs and challenges of the environment. The **Pali Palms** triangle on the corner of North Kalaheo Avenue and Mokapu Road is a good example. That plot goes from full shade to extreme sun and is exposed to car exhaust due to its location on a busy thoroughfare. The Pali Palms triangle landscaping was originally designed and installed by the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC) in 2011 to beautify this barren traffic triangle. Hele Mai Lawn & Garden has been maintaining the landscaping and irrigation for LKOC since then. Our group is committed to making sure our projects continue to be sustainable and beautiful. During the middle of August, over one hundred new bromeliads of three varieties were donated by our members and planted by Hele Mai in the triangle. Hele Mai also donated the mulch that they added in the planter beds to help the landscaping retain moisture. With bromeliads, which are fairly drought tolerant, we are expecting a successful result.



Pali Palms Triangle Before Landscaping



Pali Palms 2011 After Landscaping



Pali Palms Prior to 2020 Update



Pali Palms 2020 Update

Alala Point is the highest point at the entrance to Lanikai. In July 2019, LKOC completed a landscape refurbishment project in the upper parking lot across the street from the stone pillar overlooking Kailua bay. New lawn and wax ficus hedges were installed. The Community Service Workline (CSW) from the Women’s Community Correctional Center (WCCC) had been continuing its long-standing maintenance of the entire Alala Point area under LKOC support. Then with the arrival of COVID-19, WCCC was forced into a lockdown, and the new landscaping at Alala Point suffered. In the interim, a small group of LKOC volunteers and community members has been keeping the area weeded and mowed. A spraying of the invasive grasses by our contractor, Steve Dewald, has also been extremely helpful, and as a result, the new wax ficus hedge and lawn are doing very well.



Alala Point 2020



Silver trumpet trees on Oneawa

The **Oneawa Street** tree project is LKOC’s latest beautification venture. In mid-August, a city crew started and finished the Oneawa Street tree planting project that LKOC proposed to the city last fall. Eight new white tecoma and silver trumpet trees were planted between Kawainui Street and Kuulei Road to replace those that had been removed over the past twenty years due to age and deterioration. Each tree was fertilized, mulched, staked, and a water bag was installed. Part of the planting project includes a 90-day maintenance period by the installer where the trees will get watered twice a week. Thanks to Island Landscaping and Maintenance who did the installation for the city. Now we can all look forward to a nice bower of trees along the street.

Every spring since 1993, the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle has presented its annual **“I Love Kailua” Town Party**. As everyone knows, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the event had to be cancelled. All the Town Party event proceeds help fund LKOC’s various beautification, environmental, and educational projects in Kailua and on the Windward side. In a remarkable display of community spirit, Kailua’s wonderful local businesses and organizations still stepped up to support LKOC despite the cancellation of the Town Party. LKOC would like to recognize and thank these outstanding 2020 Town Party sponsors for their generous support of the organization’s mission as well as their commitment to seeing the Kailua community thrive.

- *Alexander & Baldwin Properties – Kailua
- *Adventist Health Castle
- *Kalapawai Market and Café
- *Cinnamon’s Restaurant
- *Kailua Sailboards & Kayaks

- *Buzz’s Original Steakhouse – Lanikai
- *Hardware Hawaii – Kailua
- *Windward Ford – Kailua
- *Mexico Lindo Restaurant
- *Emmanuel Episcopal Church



The Gardener's Corner

Claudia Webster has a garden that many would envy. She has been growing container plants on her apartment lanai for many years. She says that growing plants on a lanai is fun but a challenge.

The location of the lanai will make a difference in which plants will grow well. Her lanai is on the third floor and faces east. This area gets the morning sun but also is very windy. No hanging plants would survive.

Finding plants that grow well has been a trial and error process. The plants that grow well are orchids, angel trumpet plants, kahili ginger, golden dewdrop which has purple flowers, and angel leaf begonia. Hibiscus do not do well on her lanai. Orchids are very particular about where they are placed. They will only grow and bloom on the north side of her lanai. She has never had a bloom when she placed it on the south side.



Kahili ginger



Orchids

Following a strict routine about watering and fertilizing helps. When plants are in pots, they depend on being watered and not on rain and moisture in the soil around them. She waters all her plants on Monday. Then on Fridays she waters everything but the orchids. The first week of every month she fertilizes all plants.

Several of her plants were purchased at the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle plant sale. She buys fertilizer at Koolau Nursery, City Mill, or Hardware Hawaii. Those are also the places where she buys her pots. It just depends on which place has what she needs in stock.

Many of her orchids have been purchased at Olomana Orchids on the way to the North Shore.

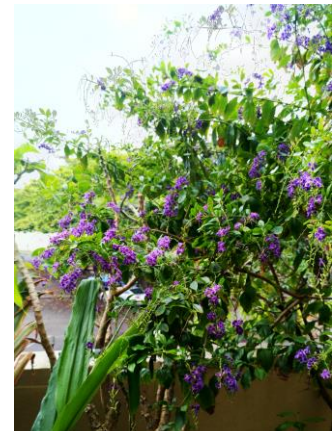
48-464 Kamehameha Hwy.

<https://www.orchidshi.com/>

They have over forty years of experience and are a great source of orchid information.

Claudia says that plants are like children in that they always need tending, and as they grow, they can also provide a lot of joy.

Claudia is a long-time member of LKOC. For many years, she was the chairperson of LKOC's Scholarship Committee which provides financial aid to Windward Community College students. Claudia also volunteered in the "Learning to Grow" program at the Women's Community Correction Center. She went to the prison's garden weekly and assisted in teaching. She also participated in the Christmas parties and events for the women on the Workline. She is now one of our advisors on the LKOC Board of Directors.



Golden dewdrop



FLASHBACK *[The Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle was instrumental in having the City plant the trees in the Aikahi Park Triangle which is in front of the Aikahi Shopping Center. LKOC was the first recipient of Mayor Frank Fasi's Beautification*

Committee scroll thanks in part to its work on developing the Triangle. Across the street, the nearby planting and upkeep of the shrubs and trees in the Pali Palms Triangle began in 2011 by LKOC, and that work continues to this day.]

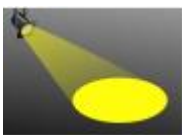
From Windward Sun Press, May 14, 1980: Circle creates triangle at Aikahi. An 'eyesore' is now a park.

It took years of grass-roots lobbying, but grass roots will soon produce grass at the new Aikahi Triangle Park near Aikahi Park Shopping Center. The lobbying was done by the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle, whose members looked upon the dusty, and often muddy area, as an eyesore.

Working with residents of the surrounding area, the Outdoor Circle earmarked some of its own funds to development of a small park at the site at the intersection of Mokapu Boulevard and Kaneohe Bay Drive. Spurred by the efforts of the Outdoor Circle, the city three years ago drew up plans for landscaping. Joan Fleming, who spearheaded the Circle's efforts, said \$100,000 was reserved from the city's capital improvements projects budget, which included bikeways and a fountain within the triangle. The funds were never released, however, necessitating a search of various city departments for project funds, she said.

Only last year it appeared that the triangle concept was doomed. It was discovered that the city and Aikahi Park Shopping Center had drawn up a letter of intent for the purchase or lease of the 10-acres site for expansion of the shopping center. "Due largely to the Outdoor Circle efforts, this did not materialize," Fleming said. Fleming said the fountain was deleted from the plan, because of increased vandalism at all parks, and the bikeways have been replaced in the plans with paved footpaths which will criss-cross the park.

When completed in a few months, the park will have coconut palms, monkeypod trees and yellow-flowered kalamona. All the trees are planted and staked, a sprinkler system has been installed and curing around the park area is in place. Topsoil and grass seeding will complete the project.



In the Spotlight

Beautification projects are highlighted in this newsletter. Without the help of several of our members and others in the community, these projects would not have reached the great results we see today. Diane Harding and Steve Mechler have been in the forefront of these ventures. Doing the planning and follow-through in addition to the hard labor has provided excellence in each of the jobs. Others who have helped with the hard work include Jason and Katherine Hills, Lori Lloyd, and Norm Scott. Donations of the bromeliads came from Gail Hutchinson, Ann Latham, and Lori Lloyd. Mahalo to all!

What's New on the Internet

LKOC Website

Go to <https://www.lkoc.org/TOC-Historical-Facts.html> where you will find:

- A new TOC Historical Vignette about how LKOC first started clearing Ulupo Heiau for archaeological inspection over 70 years ago.



- A new TOC Historical Vignette about how Hawaii’s endemic loulu palm *Pritchardia Lowreyana* was named in honor of TOC’s founder, Cherilla Lowrey.

LKOC Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/LaniKailuaOutdoorCircle/>

Nani Vermillion, LKOC Corresponding Secretary, has been posting on our Facebook page since February 2020. Click on the “Like” icon at Facebook to show your appreciation.

LKOC Instagram Page

<https://www.instagram.com/lanikailuaoutdoorcircle>

Nani is also posting to Instagram which is related to Facebook, so you will see the same pictures here. This is already a popular site with 67 likes to the new trees on Oneawa Street (“Hi baby trees! Hang in there!”) and 39 likes to the upgraded plantings at Pali Palms triangle (“Wow what a difference, keep going”). In mid-September there were 329 followers and 637 following!

Civil Beat

<https://www.civilbeat.org/scrapbook>

August 20, 2020: Steve Mechler helps to clean up Alala Point at the entrance to Lanikai.

Please Renew Your Membership. If your membership has an expiration date, it is shown on the top line of your address label. We hope you will consider renewing if you are near or past your expiration date. Send in the form on the last page or go to <https://www.lkoc.org/join-the-circle.html>. Email newsletter recipients will be notified through email if your membership is expiring.

Help us save a tree and money. Think about viewing newsletter pictures in color, going directly to hyperlinks, saving trees and money, and read your newsletter via email. If you would like to do so rather than receive it through postal mail, simply email us at Lani-kailua@outdoorcircle.org.

Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle Board Roster 2019-2020

Officers

President: Diane Harding>262-1826

Vice President: Teddi Baumgartner

Treasurer: Kathleen Bryan

Asst. Treasurer: Francine Mendes

Recording Secretary: Paula Ress

Corresponding Secretary: Nani Vermillion

Nominating Committee: Ad Hoc committee

Advisors: Margaret Brezel, Leigh Prentiss,

Lyn Turner, & Claudia Webster

Website: <http://www.lkoc.org>

Email: Lani-kailua@outdoorcircle.org



Committee Chairs

Beautification: Steve Mechler>341-1802

Communications: Teddi Baumgartner>888-9977

Education: Betsy Connors>261-8839

Historian: Ann Latham>254-2249

Holiday House Tour: Debra Creps>262-0231

Kailua Town Party: Diane Harding>262-1826

Membership: Barbara Krasniewski>384-2879

Programs: Carole Arnote>261-8342 & Pam Ross>754-0257

Public Affairs: Pauline MacNeil>261-6423

Scholarship: Betsy Connors>261-8839

Signs: Leigh Prentiss>263-6121

Volunteers: Cheryl McIlroy>783-3382

WCCC Partnership: Terry Beuret>389-0188 & Ann Latham>254-2249



Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle
 P.O. Box 261
 Kailua, HI 96734



New Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES: [per person annually unless otherwise noted]

\$25 \$50 \$100
 \$150 \$250 \$500
 \$1,000 \$2,500 one-time life pledge
 Donations \$ _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____
 (Tax Deductible)
 You may also go online (lkoc.org) to pay your dues (Join the Circle).

Your membership alone is a very worthwhile contribution. If you wish to take a more active role in any of the categories listed, please check below and return this sheet with your remittance.

Membership

**LKOC
 P.O. Box 261
 Kailua, HI 96734**

- Workday Projects
- I Love Kailua Town Party
- Learning to Grow (WCCC)
- Lettuce Delivery to Foodland
- Beautification
- Public Affairs
- Luncheons
- Sign Control
- Publicity/Newsletter
- Clerical



On occasion, can you supply?
 Flowers Greens Other:

Email me the newsletter instead of mailing through the US Postal Service.