



Aloha LKOC members and supporters,

As fall approaches, and the pandemic continues to present difficult challenges for us all, we wish you all the best for the holiday season and beyond.

Despite the challenges, the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC) has continued to pursue its mission through its educational and outreach programs, beautification projects, and advocacy efforts. The Women's Community Correctional Center has provided lettuce to Foodland, and we have carried on with beautification efforts in our Kailua community. These include the maintenance of the Kalapawai and Pali Palms traffic triangles, the Kailua Road median, and Alala Point overlooking Kailua Bay. And we have continued our advocacy efforts to protect and preserve Kawainui Marsh and to prevent the proliferation of illegal outdoor signage in our neighborhoods.

To stay connected to all of you in these uncertain times, LKOC provided a wonderful series of educational and entertaining Zoom events, its "Third Friday of the Month" Spring and Summer Program, which you can read about in this newsletter issue.

As we continue to navigate the pandemic and its effects on our activities, safety, and well-being, future LKOC events for the holidays and the coming year will be posted on our website's Upcoming Events page (<https://www.lkoc.org/upcoming-events.html>) as they near.

On a poignant note, this past September 11 was the 20th anniversary of 9/11. Several tributes were held in honor of Christine Snyder, Arborist and Director of Programs for The Outdoor Circle. On September 11, 2001, she was returning to Hawai'i on United Flight 93 that crashed in a Pennsylvania field. The Outdoor Circle and many of its branches planted trees in her memory at the time, including one at Kalaheo High School, her high school alma mater. From LKOC's October 2001 Newsletter: *"On September 11, a scheduled tree planting was completed only hours after the World Trade Center destruction. As a shower tree was planted, a circle of caring people from LKOC, the City and County, and Kalaheo High School prayed for all affected by the tragedy. In particular, they asked blessings for Christine Snyder. Let this tree stand as a testimony to life, may it grow in her memory."* And may we all continue to grow and thrive.

Mahalo from all of us at LKOC for your continued support and commitment to our cause of **Keeping Kailua Clean, Green and Beautiful.**

Diane Harding, LKOC President

★ **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 of this newsletter or go to <https://www.lkoc.org/join-the-circle.html>. Email newsletter recipients will be notified through email if your membership is expiring.

ZOOM Events Provide a Welcome Diversion to COVID

On the third Friday of the month, from March through July 2021, the Programs Committee of the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC) entertained and educated us with an impressive roster of events. These programs were recorded on Zoom and are available for public viewing on our LKOC Activities and Events webpage at <https://www.lkoc.org/Activities-and-Events.html/#thirdfriday>.

March 19, 2021: Easter Basket or Pot et Fleurs Class. This event was highlighted in the April 2021 newsletter. Go to the webpage to view. https://www.lkoc.org/uploads/3/7/9/7/37971713/lkoc_2021_newsletter_apr.pdf



April 16, 2021: Haku Lei Wristlet. Jean Kellerman showed us how to assemble a haku lei wristlet. One participant added the band to the handle of her Pot et Fleurs from the March class. The information learned could be used to create the traditional haku lei worn on the head or hat.



May 21, 2021: Updated information on Hawai'i Green Growth's Aloha+ Challenge. Celeste Connors is the Executive Director of Hawai'i Green Growth, the public/private organization begun in 2009. We first heard from Celeste at the LKOC Spring Luncheon on May 23, 2018.



Celeste grew up in Kailua and considers herself a child of LKOC. She would spend weekends volunteering with her mother, Betsy Connors, as Betsy spent time in service to LKOC. Betsy is a past president of LKOC and still a very active member. Celeste feels that this affected her career path and her choices to service. Celeste spent about twenty years as a U.S. Diplomat with the Foreign Service abroad and in Washington D.C. She ultimately spent four years at the White House as the Director of Environment and Climate Change. She brought this experience home with her as she moved her family back to Hawai'i after her service in the White House. She gave us more information on what has been happening with the goals, achievements, and challenges of this important organization. Hawai'i has been recognized by the United Nations as one of the world's first hubs to work on the global goals for sustainable development. One of the achievements of the Aloha+ Challenge has provided rewards for the Windward side of Oahu. In the Food to Waste project, food waste from school lunches has been composted and sold to the public. You may have seen the compost piles at Kainalu Elementary School. Thanks to Celeste, this child of LKOC, the whole world may now profit.

June 18, 2021: Lei Making with the He'e Berry. Hillary Aipa, teacher of Hawaiian studies and hula shared with us a way to fashion a lei from the berries of the octopus tree. In addition to describing the history and the care that must be taken when using this berry, she talked about her experiences growing up in Hawai'i and the special significance of what lei making means. She displayed her beautiful singing and knowledge as we created lei with the berries that might have been absent except for the perseverance of our event organizer, Pam Ross. Pam had been looking and inquiring from many sources to see if anyone had seen the red berries in trees that were accessible. Many of those that had started blooming were on highways or very high up in the trees. Finally, on one of her searches, she found some suitable trees. She talked to the homeowner to secure her permission and realized that the angst of the previous weeks was now over. She and Lori Lloyd did have to do some climbing and were poked and scratched as they secured the berries for all who had signed up. But the results were pleasing to all.



July 16, 2021: Tour and Discussion at Foster Gardens. We had a lovely stroll through the Gardens lead by Joshlyn Sand, Director of the Honolulu Botanical Gardens. She provided a wealth of information about the trees and plantings as well as background information and humorous asides relative to the work that goes on in our Botanical Gardens. Foster Gardens and The Outdoor Circle share an especially important early history, and Joshlyn expressed her appreciation for all that The Outdoor Circle has done for Foster Gardens. After the tour, attendees gathered for a picnic lunch, with dessert provided by LKOC's Programs Committee.

Joshlyn stands in front of the South American cannonball tree (*Couroupita guianensis*) which is over 100 years old. It sprouts flowers and fruits right from the trunk. The cannonballs are filled with a foul-smelling blue pulp.

Final Events of 2021

October 15, 2021: This Zoom event will feature the Boettcher Estate, highlighting its deteriorating condition. LKOC members were heavily involved with the estate in prior years, spearheading its landscape preservation. This event will give us a glimpse of what may be necessary to bring it back to its glory.

November 19, 2021: The final Zoom event will feature Gail Hutcheson, noted wreath maker, florist, and past President of The Garden Club of Honolulu. She will lead us in a demonstration of making a beautiful garland for your table. This garland will use "backyard" local materials, including croton, ti, Song of India, and other tropical plants. It will be lovely for decorating your Thanksgiving table!

December 10, 2021: Our final event will be a holiday boxed lunch party at Kalama Beach Club. We will have a commemorative T-shirt to honor the art of past president Joan Fleming, holiday jewelry by our treasurer Kathleen Bryan, some holiday crafts for sale, ready to gift potted plants, holiday Hawaiian shirts by Ginger Leong, and more.

We will email at a later time with details and sign-up information for the final events.



The Gardener’s Corner

Native Hawaiian plants are an important choice to consider when creating or adding to your garden. Civilbeat.org gathered information from the Hawai’i Forest Institute to encourage Hawai’i islanders to grow native Hawaiian and Polynesian-introduced (canoe) plants. These plants will benefit wildlife and the environment as a whole.

<https://www.civilbeat.org/2021/08/lets-create-an-urban-forest-network-of-native-plants/>
<https://hawaiiforestinstitute.org/our-projects/go-native-growing-a-native-hawaiian-urban-forest/>

In *Best Native Plants for Landscapes* by Melvin Wong, a plant is considered *native* if it arrived in Hawai’i without the assistance of man. A native plant is considered *indigenous* if it is found in other places as well as in Hawai’i. A native plant is considered *endemic* if it occurs naturally only in the Hawaiian Islands. <https://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/OF-40.pdf>

In *Canoe Plants of Ancient Hawai’i* (<https://canoeplants.com/intro.html>), Lyndon Dove White described the people who brought the canoe plants to Hawai’i. “These Polynesian voyagers of a great oceanic nation trusted in a benevolent order that included an active relationship with plants. A few life-sustaining plants had long been cultivated through selection and preservation. Upon the sailing canoes were stashed precious cargo of the shoots, roots, cuttings and seeds of these plants for food, cordage, medicine, fabric, containers, all of life's vital needs. This was a culture without clay or iron whose people knew the intrinsic value of the cargo they carried beyond the horizon.”

Honolulu Magazine’s February 3, 2012 issue had entertaining descriptions of *The First Hawaiians: Native Plants* by Lavonne Leong. <https://www.honolulumagazine.com/the-first-hawaiians-native-plants/> “They came by air and by sea: seeds and spores that sailed on the ocean currents, drifted high in the atmosphere, and hitched rides with migratory birds. Once every 100,000 years, a new plant made a lucky landfall and established itself in the young, isolated Hawaiian Islands. And then, often, it evolved. When Polynesians arrived in Hawaii, they found an archipelago already teeming with a diverse native flora. These plants, many found nowhere else on earth, became part of the medicine, the worship, the knowledge and the everyday lives—in short, part of the culture—of Hawaii before Western contact.”

Here are some examples of native plants suggested by the Hawai’i Forest Institute.



Pohinahina (indigenous)
Vitex rotundifolia



Koki’o ke’oke’o (endemic)
Hibiscus Waimeae



Mamaki (endemic)
Pipturus albidus



Trees of Kailua - Cook vs. Norfolk Island Pines

Many of us have long thought that the beautiful pine trees in Hawai'i were Norfolk Island pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*). Norfolk Island is a territory of Australia and located a two-hour plane ride from there. Instead, the majority of the trees in Hawai'i are Cook pines (*Araucaria columnaris*). The Cook pines originally came from New Caledonia, a French territory east of Australia and north of the Cook Islands.

The strongest identifier of these two types of trees is their tree bark. In large adult trees, the Cook bark is flaky and peels off in rolls. The Norfolks do not have much peeling.



Cook pine tree bark
Kainui Drive



Norfolk Island pine bark
Kaneohe District Park



Bent trunk of Cook tree
Kainui Drive

Another way to recognize the Cook pines is by looking at their tree trunks. Cook pine trunks may bend as they get taller.

Another identifier is the shape of older trees. Older Norfolks tend to be wider and more pyramid shaped. Cooks can be rocket shaped and tapering at the top. However, the shapes and bent trunks are not always strong identifiers because the trees might have been pruned

(by man or nature) and might have taken on different shapes.

You can view some public Cook pine trees in the medial strip on Kainui Drive mauka of Maluniu Avenue and also one at the Kailua Police Station. The only public place that has been found to have Norfolk Island pines on the Windward Side is across the field at the Kaneohe District Park Playground. You can also see Norfolks in Manoa and Palolo. Use the interactive Hawai'i Citizen Forester Tree Plotter Inventory map (<https://pg-cloud.com/hawaii>) to locate these trees. Click on the *Organization* (e.g., Kaneohe), then click on *Toggle All* to uncheck all boxes. Next, scroll down the list and check the boxes for Cook pine and Norfolk Island pine if they are available for that site. You can then zoom in on the map to find the little colored circles that show the locations of these trees. By clicking on the circles in the map, you can view other information such as photos or street views and height of the trees.



Grove of Norfolk Island pine trees at back of Kaneohe District Park Playground



FLASHBACK [*Kainui Drive medial strip is now home to thriving coconut trees and some Cook pines.*]

From The Saturday Star-Bulletin, April 6, 1957, Kailua Residents to Plant Palm Trees on Medial Strip.



Kailua, once the scene of a 200-acre copra plantation solid with coconut trees, is being “re-forested” through the efforts of a retired Army lieutenant colonel. Howard F. Cue spearheaded the move to bring 243 coco-palms from Honolulu to be planted in the medial strip of Kainui Drive where he is now living. The trees are four to eight feet tall and were raised in the nursery of the Board of Public Parks and Recreation. The Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle helped Cue by arranging for delivery of the trees. At one time City-County and Territorial nurseries were supplied with sprouted coconut trees from Kailua’s coconut grove area. However, in recent years the trees have almost disappeared to make way for new subdivisions. Kainui Drive is on the outskirts of the old coconut grove. It occupies the site that was used as a race track in the 1930s and early ‘40s.

Those in the picture (left to right) are Howard F. Cue, Thomas M. Clarke Jr., Mrs. W.M. Calderone, Mrs. Cue and Mrs. Robert Morgan.

WCCC Super-sized Lettuce

The Women’s Community Correctional Center (WCCC) has a new volunteer. Rennie Faith stands with one of the biggest heads of lettuce we have ever seen in the WCCC hydroponics garden. Rennie is the mother of Jimi Faith who was featured in the October 2020 newsletter. He provides the boxes that are used to transport the bags of lettuce to Foodland. Thanks to the Faith family for providing support to our WCCC operations. And thanks to the volunteers who have provided so much of their time and energy this year to WCCC: Terry Beuret, Ann Latham, Betsy Connors, and Kaoru Harada.



What's New on the Internet

LKOC Website

Go to <https://www.lkoc.org/whats-new.html> where you will find:

- A **Tri-fold Brochure about TOC and its Branches Statewide since 1912**. There are five pictures that feature Kailua: *Alala Point, Lanikai *Aikahi Triangle Park *Mokapu Boulevard *Kawainui Marsh *Ulupo Heiau.
- A sixth picture in the Tri-fold Brochure shows The Outdoor Circle Exceptional Tree Map encompassing all the islands. There are about a dozen Exceptional Trees in Kailua, including four monkeypods at WCCC and four banyans in the Kailua Central Triangle that LKOC nominated to the Exceptional Tree register in 2004. Go to <https://tocetm.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=145ee53b5a964329a3bd8279f350eee1> and see street views of them.
- The latest Outdoor Circle Annual Report is available to view on line: https://www.outdoorcircle.org/uploads/2/6/1/4/26147365/toc_annual_report_2020-21.pdf It has a wealth of information about what TOC and the Branches have been doing over the last year to improve our environment and foster our mission.
- **Did you know...** *If you receive a print copy of the newsletter, you can go to LKOC.org to find digital copies of the newsletters under "Add'l Info". Then you can click on the hyperlinks without having to type them out. <https://www.lkoc.org/newsletter.html> *LKOC has several exciting new tree planting projects in Kailua planned for the coming year. As these materialize, visit our **What's New** page for details and information on how you can get involved. <https://www.lkoc.org/whats-new.html>

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