



Aloha LKOC members and supporters,

The Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year! For over seven decades, we have been committed to enhancing the livability of Kailua through our beautification and tree planting projects, our environmental advocacy efforts, and our educational outreach programs that have fostered a sense of stewardship in generations of Windward residents. We should all be proud of this remarkable legacy and the lasting impacts our group of dedicated volunteers has had on our community over the years.

As a highlight of our anniversary celebration, we are happy to announce that after a three-year hiatus due to COVID, we will once again be hosting our signature event, the *I Love Kailua* Town Party in April, which you can read about in this Newsletter. For the past 30 years, our block-party in downtown Kailua has brought the community together for a festive day of celebration of all that Kailua has to offer. It promises to be a wonderful event, and we hope you will come celebrate with us.

We will be using proceeds from the event to pursue a tree planting project on one of Kailua's under-canopied thoroughfares such as Keolu Drive, which lost many trees during Hurricane Iniki, or Kainalu Drive, where its highly utilized pedestrian and bike paths would benefit greatly by having shade tree coverage. In this Newsletter, you can read about how past Town Party proceeds have been used to enhance Kailua through our beautification and tree planting projects.

We will also be holding our Annual General Membership Meeting and Luncheon in May at which we will elect our new Board of Directors. A proxy showing the slate of officers is included in this Newsletter, for those who are unable to attend. Details of this event will be sent in a separate mailing and will be available on our website. We hope you will join us.

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

Diane Harding
LKOC President



Membership Reminder: Your membership term is shown above 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.

LKOC Past Events

November Arbor Day Event

In recognition of Arbor Day, the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC), in partnership with Smart Trees Pacific, hosted a free tree giveaway on Saturday, November 5, 2022, at which hundreds of trees were adopted by residents. The Arbor Day trees and plants were presented to the public at the Kailua United Methodist Church on Kailua Road. Over 300 ornamental, fruit, and native trees and shrubs were available. This LKOC event was one of several being held on Oahu, and people from all over the island came to adopt a tree at the Kailua event. Funding for the trees and plants was provided by Alexander & Baldwin Hawai'i and LKOC. Specimens included those purchased from local nurseries and those propagated by students at LKOC's Learning to Grow Program plant nursery at the Women's Community Correctional Center in Kailua. There were educational and information booths, Master Gardeners and arborists to answer questions, and tree trimmer/climber demonstrations. A special presentation announced the annual "We Love Trees" Keiki Art contest winners. There were over 350 submissions from elementary schools across the state, and 18 were chosen as winners who each received a tree.



3rd Grade Keiki Art Contest winner from Keolu Elementary School



Tree give-away



Holiday Luncheon

The annual year-end holiday luncheon was held at Mid-Pacific Country Club on Wednesday, November 30, 2022. Crafters selling their beautiful wares were available just in time for the holidays. Winston Welch, Executive Director of The Outdoor Circle (TOC), Diane Harding, President of TOC as well as LKOC, and Steve Mechler, director of Beautification for LKOC gave updates on the status of the organizations.

LKOC Shade Tree Planting Project

In August 2020, LKOC spearheaded the planting of eight white tecoma and silver trumpet street trees on Oneawa Street, from Kuulei to Kawainui streets. While some of those trees had to be replaced, photos taken on January 13, 2023, show that some of the trees are thriving. Dedicated LKOC volunteers have continued to water them regularly.



Silver trumpet tree (on the left)



White dwarf tecoma tree (on the right)

Trees of Kailua – Tall Coconut vs. Dwarf Coconut

There are many types of palm trees, and coconut trees are a specific type of palm tree. Coconuts were brought to Hawai'i with the original Polynesian voyagers as part of their canoe plants many years ago. We will refer to the trees that started from those canoe plants as "Hawaiian Talls." There are two main types of coconut trees (*Cocos nucifera*) in Hawai'i, the Hawaiian Tall and the locally called Samoan Dwarf. The Hawaiian Tall can grow 80 feet or more and the Samoan Dwarf can grow from 20 to 60 feet. Hawaiian Tall coconut trees can live about 60 to 80 years and can even reach 100 years. Samoan Dwarf coconut trees can live up to 60 years. The Samoan Dwarf trees have a wide trunk base while the Hawaiian Tall tree trunks seem spindly in comparison but can bend and withstand gale force winds. Coconuts are not true nuts; they are stone fruit. The word, coconut, came from the Portuguese and Spanish word, coco, meaning "head." The Hawaiian word for coconut is "niu." In many parts of the world, the coconut is so important that there is now a World Coconut Day celebrated on September 2.



*** LKOC Beautification Projects IN KAILUA ***

The Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC) has been beautifying our public spaces in Kailua for the past 75 years!

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS FUNDED WITH TOWN PARTY PROCEEDS

1994 – present ~ With proceeds from our first Town Party, LKOC designed and installed the landscaping at **Alala Point** overlooking Kailua Beach, from the boat ramp to the monument and in the upper and lower mauka parking lots. Since **1999**, we have provided the landscape maintenance for the multi-acre area. In **2019**, we performed a major landscape refurbishment of the upper mauka parking lot and installed a new lawn and perimeter hedging.



2002, 2004 ~ LKOC planted Royal Poincianas at **Kailua Intermediate School** and Monkeypods at Lanikai Elementary School (now Ka'ohao Charter School).

2007 ~ In partnership with the City and County of Honolulu, LKOC spearheaded the planting of Shower and Narra trees in the median on **Mokapu Road** between Kalaheo Avenue and the Marine Corp Base Hawaii entrance.



2010 – present ~ LKOC designed and installed the landscaping at the two traffic triangles at either end of Kalaheo Avenue, one at **Pali Palms** and the other at **Kalapawai** and has been paying for the ongoing professional maintenance of those plantings. In **2020**, LKOC refurbished the landscaping at Pali Palms Triangle. Note that LKOC volunteers planted the iconic Kalapawai Triangle banyan in **1954**.



Kalapawai Triangle banyan in **1954**.

2020 ~ LKOC spearheaded a City & County street tree replanting project on **Oneawa Street**, from Kuulei Road to Kawainui Street, where eight Silver Trumpet and White Tecoma trees were planted to replace failing Pink Tecomas that had also been planted by LKOC in **2000**.



LOOKING BACK...HOW OUR STREETS AND PARKS HAVE BEEN ENHANCED



1949 ~ LKOC planted dozens of Tecoma trees on the **Kailua Road** median entering central Kailua. In 1950, a major roadway upgrade replaced these with Kamani trees. Since **2000**, LKOC has funded the landscape maintenance of the median down to Kuulei Road.



1990 ~ LKOC spearheaded planting of the monkeypods at **Kailua District Park** along Kainalu Drive.



Please visit our website to see more projects:
<https://www.lkoc.org/beautification-projects.html>

THE LANI-KAILUA BRANCH OF THE OUTDOOR CIRCLE

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND PROXY STATEMENT

[The following must be filled out ONLY if you will NOT be attending the May meeting.]

The General Membership Meeting of the Lani-Kailua Branch of The Outdoor Circle (LKOC) will be held on Friday, May 12, 2023 at the Kalama Beach Club, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the purpose of electing members of the Board of Directors.

ONLY IF YOU CANNOT BE PRESENT, please sign and date the proxy form below and mail so it is received by Monday, May 8, 2023 to: LKOC, P.O. Box 261, Kailua, HI 96734, Attention: Secretary.

By order of the LKOC Board of Directors,
Secretary Paula Ress

PROXY STATEMENT

The proxy below is being solicited by the Board of Directors of LKOC for all members in good standing **who will not be attending** the General Membership Meeting. Your interest represented by this proxy will be voted if it is properly signed and received by the Secretary by the deadline listed below.

If you select Diane Harding, your proxy will be voted in favor of the slate of nominees presented by the Nominating Committee.

If you do not select Diane Harding, your designated proxy must be present to vote.

PROXY

I, the undersigned member of the Lani-Kailua Branch of The Outdoor Circle, acknowledge receipt of the Notice of the General Membership Meeting of said Branch.

I hereby appoint: [] Diane Harding, President OR [] _____
(Name of Proxy- Please Print)

with full power of substitution, for and in my name, to vote as my proxy at said General Membership Meeting on the following matter: Election of Officers.

<u>Office</u>	<u>Nominating Committee Candidate</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>Other Candidate</u>
President:	Diane Harding		_____
Vice President:	Ken Curtis		_____
Treasurer:	Kathleen Bryan		_____
Assist. Treasurer:	Francine Mendes		_____
Recording Secretary:	Teddi Baumgartner		_____
Corresponding Secretary:	Nani Vermillion		_____
Nominating Committee:	TBD		_____
Advisor:	Margaret Brezel		_____
Advisor:	Leigh Prentiss		_____
Advisor:	Paula Ress		_____
Advisor:	Lyn Turner		_____
Advisor:	Claudia Webster		_____

PLEASE SPECIFY CHOICES ABOVE, SIGN AND DATE BELOW. RETURN BY 5 P.M., MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023.

Signature: _____

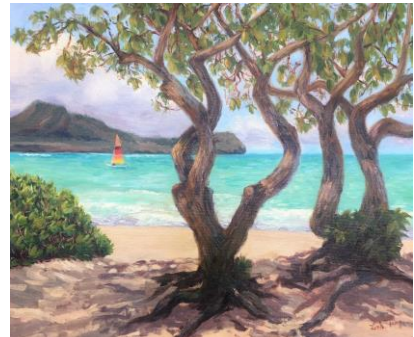
Date Signed: _____

Print name and address:

Please return proxy to LKOC, P.O. Box 261, Kailua, HI 96734 Attention: Secretary by Monday, May 8, 2023.

Future Events

***I Love Kailua Town Party.** After three years of COVID, we are greatly looking forward to the 2023 I Love Kailua Town Party. It will be held **Sunday, April 23, 2023**, from 11-4 on Kailua Road. Artist Linh Tang created this year's beautiful painting depicting Mokapu Point as viewed from Kailua Beach Park. She volunteered to donate her original art piece at the event. Your button backing card will be your entry ticket for the art drawing. You can fill it out and drop it at any of our scrip and button sales booths at the event. The lucky winner needs to be present at the ticket drawing at Center Stage at 2:30 p.m. Also, if you join LKOC or renew your membership at the Town Party, you will receive a coupon for \$5 off the purchase of a Town Party T-shirt.



***Koko Head Crater Botanical Gardens Tour.** This event will be held **Friday, April 14, 2023**, (site access permitting due to recent wind damage) with a docent guiding us through the gardens. We are to meet at the entrance (7491 Kokonani St.) at 9:30 a.m. The charge will be \$5.00 (paid in advance to LKOC). Cold bottled water and a snack will be provided. Participants are encouraged to bring their own lunch. Carpooling is encouraged. Contact Pam Ross to sign up and for help with carpooling (email: oheloroad@aol.com.)

***Lei Making Class:** This event will be held on **Thursday, May 11, 2023**. Brush up on your lei making skills and make a simple lei that will be given away to our newly elected President and Board of Directors, Speaker, and special visitors at the LKOC spring membership meeting the next day. The first 15 to sign up will be given flowers to string. Contact Pam Ross.

***Annual Membership Meeting/Luncheon:** This event will be held on **Friday, May 12, 2023** at Kalama Beach Club. Box lunches will be available to purchase and a speaker will be provided. Event details will be sent in a separate mailing and will be available on our website: <https://www.lkoc.org/upcoming-events.html>.



FLASHBACK

[Information supports the idea of protecting the Kawainui Marsh.]

From the Windward Sun Press, March 31, 1982, "Do keys to future lie in the past?"

Archaeological excavations in Kawainui Marsh have shed new light on the marsh history and suggest that new research should be done. Archaeological excavations and a historical study of the marsh were done by the Department of Anthropology at Bishop Museum. The reports uncovered evidence that the marsh slopes were first occupied about the year 500 and that agriculture at that time was not possible.

Other findings in the five abstracts included:

- Two trenches, which exposed the full sedimentary sequence through rice and taro soils, a peat layer and a basal coral, rubble, sand and seashell layer.

- The latter layer was once the floor of an open bay, prior to accumulation of the sand that underlies Kailua today.
- Formation of the sand barrier changed Kawainui from a bay open to the sea into a lagoon.
- Identification of the coral and mollusks in the coral layer indicate quiet, clear marine waters in the area during early times.

Samples of carbon from the coral, peat, and rice and taro layers dated by the radiocarbon method, showed evidence that the peat layer was formed in 650 and soil did not fill the Kawainui basin until after the year 1300.

The earliest occupants of the land, in about 500, apparently lived beside a lagoon or open bay, probably relying for food on agriculture on the dry slopes, fishing and gathering shellfish.

One of the early inhabited sites is believed to have been near Ulupo Heiau, according to archaeologists.

Conclusions drawn from the five reports are that Kawainui is archaeologically significant, that as much as anywhere the marsh has the potential to further the understanding of Hawaiian natural and cultural history and that there should be no additional “obliteration” of resources in the marsh and its fringes.

[The efforts of the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle led to the inclusion of Ulupo Heiau into the Territorial Park System in 1954. It subsequently became part of Hawai'i's State Parks system, and it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.]

Aloha ‘Oe

Luci Creps Pfaltzgraff was a driving force for LKOC and The Outdoor Circle. She held the position of president for LKOC in the 1960s and The Outdoor Circle in the 1970s. She received Letters of Commendation from both the Governor and Mayor when Diamond Head was named a National Natural Landmark in 1968 thanks to her efforts. When you see the unspoiled slopes of Diamond Head, you are seeing Luci’s vision. She leaves behind her true Aloha Spirit which she shared with her family members and strangers alike.



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 2022-2023 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



Committee Chairs

Beautification: Steve Mechler>341-1802

Communications: Teddi Baumgartner>888-9977

Education: Betsy Connors>261-8839

Historian: Ann Latham>254-2249

Kailua Town Party: Diane Harding>262-1826

Membership: Barbara Krasniewski>384-2879

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

Public Affairs: Pauline MacNeil>261-6423

Scholarship: Betsy Connors>261-8839

Signs: Leigh Prentiss>263-6121

Volunteers: Barbara Krasniewski>384-2879

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

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

Email: Lani-kailua@outdoorcircle.org



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.

