



Aloha LKOC members and supporters,

As we approach Thanksgiving and the holidays, all of us at Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC) and The Outdoor Circle (TOC) are heartened by the prospects of a productive year ahead.

TOC is celebrating its 110th anniversary this year, and for its kickoff event it is presenting a wonderful evening at the Hawaiian Mission Houses highlighting our founder Cherilla Lowrey and three other conservationists of her era. This ‘history theater’ features live actor performances which will bring their moving stories to life.

In November, in celebration of Arbor Day, all of The Outdoor Circle branches from Kaua’i to Hawai’i Island will be hosting a series of events including tree giveaways, planting projects and other outreach activities in their communities. It will be the first time that all branches statewide will be participating in coordinated events to promote the importance of trees and to celebrate our organization’s rich legacy of tree planting and environmental stewardship. LKOC is excited to be part of this and is planning a tree giveaway in Kailua for which details will be provided soon.

LKOC is also planning a festive holiday event in late November where we can meet to enjoy and celebrate the season. And in the spring, we are looking forward to once again holding our “I Love Kailua” Town Party which is always such a wonderful community event. We also have several tree planting projects that we have been pursuing and are hopeful these will come to fruition in the coming months.

As I look back on my tenure with TOC that started in 2008 when I became the Assistant Treasurer for TOC, and subsequently President of LKOC in 2014, it has been such an enriching experience for me. Seeing first-hand the dedication and commitment of all of you who support us has been one of the highlights in my daily life, and I wouldn’t trade a minute of it.

Now, as I humbly also take on the role of President of The Outdoor Circle, I hope to meet your expectations, and I thank *you* for all your support and for helping The Outdoor Circle thrive!

Mahalo from all of us at LKOC,
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

WCCC Plant Sale

May 7, 2022 saw the return (since the COVID pandemic) of the Women’s Community Correctional Center (WCCC) Plant Sale which was held at the Kailua United Methodist Church. The proceeds help to fund the activities at WCCC which are sponsored by Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC) including the Learning to Grow (LTG) program. You can read about the history of LKOC working with WCCC at <https://www.lkoc.org/lkocwccc-partnership.html#LTG>.



L to R: Claudia Webster, Beth Granger, Francine Mendes, Betsy Connors, Terry Beuret, Ann Latham, and Kaoru Harada.

The Spring Membership Meeting and Luncheon

On Friday, May 13, 2022, at the Kaneohe Yacht Club, our guest speaker was Bill Hicks, Chairman of the Kailua Neighborhood Board. He spoke about some of the issues that Kailua has been dealing with over the years. He mentioned that the Neighborhood Board has agreed with the stands of many of the issues LKOC has been dealing. In particular, he talked about the Kawainui Street Affordable Housing Project and the preservation of the Kawainui Marsh. He also notified us that the huge triangle in front of Aikahi Park Shopping Center may see more attention to grass cutting. That triangle is not owned by Alexander and Baldwin (A & B) but they own the shopping center. A & B recently notified the owners, the City & County of Honolulu, that they will provide care of that triangle. This was especially heart-warming since it came four days after the memorial to Joan Fleming which was also held at the Kaneohe Yacht Club. Joan had been instrumental in getting this triangle saved as a beautiful tree-filled park instead of an expansion of the shopping center.



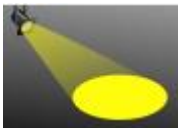
https://www.lkoc.org/uploads/3/7/9/7/37971713/lkoc_2020_newsletter_oct.pdf

(See the Flashback on page 6 of the October 2020 newsletter.)

Also at the meeting, officers were sworn in by Winston Welch, Executive Director of The Outdoor Circle. A special tribute was given to four members of LKOC (see In the Spotlight). And a free raffle provided plants to attendees. The plants were provided by members of the Board of LKOC and the women at the Women’s Community Correctional Center.



Officers sworn in for 2022-2023 (L to R): Advisors - Claudia Webster, Margaret Brezel, and Lyn Turner; Treasurer - Kathleen Bryan; Vice President - Teddi Baumgartner; President - Diane Harding; Secretary - Paula Ress; not present: Asst. Treasurer: Francine Mendes; Corresponding Secretary: Nani Vermillion; Advisor: Leigh Prentiss



In the Spotlight

These were the tributes written on the plaques given at the Spring Luncheon.

To Terry Beuret: In recognition and appreciation of your outstanding contribution to the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle’s “Learning to Grow” Program, and for your untiring dedication to this life-changing and enriching program.

To Ann Latham: In recognition and appreciation of your outstanding contribution to the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle, which has always been given with boundless energy and aloha above and beyond the call of duty.

To Paula and Bob Ress: In recognition and appreciation of your outstanding contribution to the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle, and for your untiring decades-long dedication to “Keeping Kailua Clean, Green and Beautiful”.

L to R: Terry Beuret, Ann Latham, and Paula and Bob Ress



LKOC Board Members Will Also Serve on TOC Board

The Board of Directors for The Outdoor Circle (TOC) for the year 2022-2023 has been chosen, and three of the TOC directors are also on the Board of the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC). These three hard-working women have agreed to do double-duty and continue on both boards.

Diane Harding, TOC President

Diane has served as President of the Lani-Kailua Branch of The Outdoor Circle since 2014, and on the TOC Board in various capacities since 2008, serving as past Treasurer and Branch Representative, and on its Policy, Finance, Trees and Public Affairs Committees. She was born and raised in Hawai'i, and has an Applied Mathematics degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is a retired software developer in the fields of geophysics, ocean science and seafloor mapping, having worked for the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in Manoa at the University of Hawai'i Institute of Geophysics and the University of Hawai'i School of Ocean & Earth Science and Technology, and most recently for a DOD Contractor based at Marine Corps Base Hawaii in Kaneohe. She has also served as a University of Hawai'i Foundation Windward Community College Ambassador.

Paula Ress, TOC Secretary

Paula has been an enthusiastic member of The Outdoor Circle's board over the past 20 years and an active member of the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC) Board. [She is currently Recording Secretary for LKOC.] Paula and her husband are long-time adopters of a small coconut tree park in Kailua, active workers on the landscape and outreach at Kailua United Methodist Church, is on the board of the Kalaheo High School Foundation, and she became a certified Citizen Forester for a tree inventory project on Oahu.

Kathleen Bryan, TOC Nominating Committee Chair

Kathleen previously served three terms as Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee on the Board and currently is embarking on a fourth term on the Board serving as Nominating Committee Chair. She has 30 years of financial experience and retired as Vice President and Manager of Financial Planning from the Bank of Hawai'i. Kathleen makes fused glass and jewelry, loves hula, and is also the Treasurer for the LKOC branch.

Praises for LKOC's Work with WCCC

Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC) has been working with the Women's Community Correctional Center (WCCC) for many years now. Here are a few comments that have been collected lately.

I recently was paroled from WCCC. During my incarceration, I had the opportunity to work alongside Miss Terry and Miss Ann. These amazing women helped me gain experience in hydroponics. It was never something I considered. Gaining experience and knowledge has helped me change my mindset and also consider sustainable gardening. I am truly grateful for these ladies, their time and patience to teach and believe in us. I just wanted to extend love and gratitude for all they have done not only for me but for all the women at WCCC. (A former Inmate at WCCC)

I would testify that growing plants is therapeutic. But the most important part of our program is the personal interaction with the terrific women who run the program. You amazing women show that there are people who show up, think of the greater good, have a bushel of patience and keep a sense of humor. I'm sure the inmates have lives full of personal relationship failures, and you ladies show what is possible. (Paula Ress)

The former inmate provides a wonderful testimonial for the Learning to Grow (LTG) program and the LKOC women who run it. There are other stories of achievement out there. I ran into one of our former LTG students at a scholarship luncheon at Windward Community College. She recognized me and told me she was working on a degree in Social Work. I also saw another former student working at Foodland. She came up and hugged me. LKOC's work with WCCC is one of the true success stories, and all who participate deserve thanks. (Claudia Webster)



FLASHBACK

From the Windward Press, Thursday, November 21, 1957, Outdoor Circle and Kailua Heights Residents Have Won the Poinciana Tree Fight.

Within five years, at least 200 Royal Poinciana trees will be exuding their color and tropical romance for thousands to see and enjoy, this due to the persistent efforts of the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle and the more than 100 home owners in the new Kailua Heights subdivision.

Thwarted two months ago when Yoshio Kunimoto, city-county chief engineer, discouraged the proposed plantings, the Circle and the Kailua Heights' people banded together and bombarded the city officials with facts, figures and petitions which, apparently, had force and full effect.

City-county supervisors voted unanimously the past week to allow the plantings. The parks board had already promised 200 good-size Royal Poinciana trees to the Circle for planting in the area but was reluctant to release the trees until official approval had been given.

The chief engineer had originally told the Circle and the residents that the Poinciana tree roots would pose a hazard to concrete and street surfacing and that some other type might be more advantageous.

The Circle said it wanted Royal Poincianas. The Kailua Heights' folk said they wanted Royal Poincianas.

And so the city-county supervisors agree.

Residents have signed written agreements to dig the pukas, fertilize the plantings and irrigate the trees. A total of 200 of the trees worth at least \$1,000, will be delivered by the parks board people Friday, November 29, to give the residents the Thanksgiving weekend to get the trees in the ground and growing.

First royal poinciana tree is planted in the sidewalk area of Keolu-Kailua Heights by persons who have been instrumental in procuring permission to plant the trees. From left to right: Mrs. Frank Palmer, Lanikai Outdoor Circle landscape chairman; Thomas Rockford, resident; Harold Bailey, president of the Keolu-Kailua Heights Community Association; Mrs. Edward Cooke, neighborhood chairman; and Edward Cooke, resident. In the foreground is Mrs. Harry Uhler, president of the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle.





Trees of Kailua – Royal Poinciana

The royal poinciana (*Delonix regia*) was brought to Hawai'i in 1855 by Dr. William Hillebrand, a German physician who lived at and began what would become known as Foster Botanical Gardens. He lived in Hawai'i for over twenty years and was chief physician at Queen's Hospital and personal physician to King Kamehameha V. He had traveled all over the world and introduced many ornamental plants into Hawai'i.

The royal poinciana is a non-native tree from Madagascar. The tree blooms with red and orange flowers, and it needs a lot of space and full sun. The poincianas in the Flashback article were planted by LKOC 65 years ago. One poinciana tree that may have been planted around that same time is located on the grounds of the Keolumana United Methodist Church across from Keolu Elementary School. In the picture on the left below, you can see from the tree trunk that it is an older tree, and over 60 years later, it is still flowering with vibrant leaves. The life expectancy of poinciana trees is usually 40–50 years. Kailua seems to be a place where poinciana trees can thrive.

There are other places where you can see poinciana trees thriving in Kailua. Most notably, there are over twenty poinciana trees growing along South Kainalu Drive that stretch from Kuulei Road to Kailua Road. Many of the older trees were planted by LKOC in 1954. Over the years, the city has continued to prune and replant when necessary, and there is a mixture of younger and older trees which you can identify by the tree trunks. Also on South Kainalu Drive, there are several poinciana trees growing at Kailua Intermediate School, two of which were planted by LKOC in 2002.



Keolumana United Methodist Church:
Kailua granddaddy of poinciana trees



S. Kainalu Drive:
older poinciana tree

S. Kainalu Drive: younger poinciana tree



Future Events

We are looking forward to our annual holiday event tentatively scheduled for November 30, 2022. Details will be announced soon.



And after three years of COVID, we are already starting to get prepared for the 2023 I Love Kailua Town Party. It takes much preparation and planning to get this massive party together. The Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle is making plans, and as usual it will be scheduled for a Sunday in April 2023. Get ready for fun, food, and festivities.



Aloha 'Oe

Mary Hines King was a leading advocate for the Lani-Kailua Branch for over 40 years, serving as Board president from 1978-1979 and as a leader in Public Affairs and Beautification efforts throughout Kailua. She will always be remembered as a gentle and charming person who got the job done! She and her husband Harvey loved traveling, and she always had a sparkle in her eyes as she was off to her next adventure.

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



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.

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.

Membership

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

