



Aloha LKOC Members and Supporters,

LKOC had a busy spring and summer, as you will see highlighted in this newsletter. We held our annual **“I Love Kailua” Town Party** in April, a much-anticipated event enjoyed by all, and we hosted a lovely luncheon and **General Membership Meeting** in May. We jumped right into the Fourth of July celebration with our impressive float entry in the **75th Annual Kailua 4th of July Parade**. In August we installed a stone (pohaku) and plaque recognizing the three **Exceptional Tree monkeypod specimens** on the grounds of the Women’s Community Correctional Center. In September, we hosted a docent-led tour of the **University of Hawaii at Manoa Campus Arboretum**, a truly must-see experience. Our members and volunteers did an amazing job putting on these events, and I hope you were able to attend!

Behind the scenes, we continued our beautification efforts in Kailua, including the landscape maintenance of the Central and Pali Palms triangles, the Kailua Road median, and Alala Point. The health of the banyan trees in Kailua’s Kalapawai and Central triangles became of concern to us due to gall wasp infestation and was thankfully addressed, as you will read in this newsletter. We are also moving forward with our next tree planting project on Keolu Drive, in collaboration with the Division of Urban Forestry.

For our **30th “I Love Kailua” Town Party**, to be held on Sunday, April 27, 2025, we are seeking artwork submissions for consideration as the signature art design that appears on our T-shirts, buttons, and all promotional material for the event. We accept all forms of 2-D art, including photography, and multiple submissions are encouraged! If you, or anyone you know, is interested, submissions should be emailed by November 1, 2024 to lani-kailua@outdoorcircle.org. Information on how you can participate or volunteer for the Town Party is posted on our Town Party webpage <https://www.lkoc.org/Town-Party.html>.

And in closing, remember to **“save the date”** for our upcoming fall and winter events:

- **Arbor Day Tree Giveaway**, Saturday, November 2, 2024.
- **LKOC Holiday Luncheon**, tentatively set for December 6, 2024. Invitations and details for making reservations will be sent soon and will be posted on our Upcoming Events webpage: <https://www.lkoc.org/upcoming-events.html>

Mahalo from all of us at LKOC for your continued support.
Diane Harding, 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 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.

LKOC Past Events



Town Party 2024: The Town Party on April 28, 2024, was a great success. We have the following organizations to thank for their generous donations:

*Alexander & Baldwin Properties *Adventist Health Castle *Hardware Hawaii-Kailua *Buzz's Original Steak House-Lanikai *Lanikai Brewing Company *Fighting Eel *Classic Waves Boutique *Kailua Sailboards and Kayaks *Baci Bistro *Kailua Condos LLC *Enchanted Lake Pet Store *Times Supermarket

Save the date for the next Town Party on Sunday, April 27, 2025.

May Business Meeting/Luncheon: The Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle (LKOC) annual spring meeting was held at the Lanikai Pavilion where members voted in the 2024-2025 Board of Directors. The main speaker was the Warden of the Women's Community Correctional Center (WCCC), Ione Guillonta. She said, "There is something special about the relationship that WCCC has with Kailua and the Windward side, and a lot of that is because of the work that you folks have done with the women and making them feel that they are not just offenders but they're part of the community. You folks are always there to help and wanting to support and better the women." She then went on to describe some of the new plans she envisions for WCCC.



WCCC Warden Ione Guillonta

Green Jobs for Women's Community Correctional Center Students (WCCC):

In June, Smart Trees Pacific gave a presentation to the United States Forestry Service (USFS) and several Pacific Island foresters about the Green Jobs program at WCCC. In partnership with LKOC, Smart Trees gives training to the WCCC women in the hydroponics nursery (photo on left) and Community Service Work Line (photo of Alala Point on right). Then they try to find work for those women within the Bridge Program and Parole Program as they near release.

A PowerPoint of their presentation is available at:

https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd1188601.pdf.





Everybody Loves a Parade: LKOC has taken part in every Kailua Fourth of July parade since the first one in 1949, and the float this year paid homage to 75 years of keeping Kailua clean, green, and beautiful. The float depicted a tree surrounded by landscaping and equipment and included a large picture of the float entry in that very first Kailua Parade. The theme that year was “Make Kailua a Garden City,” and LKOC has been proud to uphold that tradition. The parade marchers this year included three generations of

dedicated members of the Connors and Ress families. To see a video of the parade entry, scroll down at: <https://www.lkoc.org/activities-and-events.html>.

Exceptional Trees at WCCC: In August, LKOC installed a commemorative pohaku (stone) and plaque at the Women’s Community Correctional Center recognizing the three Exceptional Trees on the grounds. As described on the plaque, these trees were nominated to the Exceptional Tree Registry by LKOC in 2002 and have been maintained by LKOC since then. These are some of the oldest and most spectacular specimens on the Registry, and LKOC has been proud to care for them over the years. The pohaku is located at the facility entrance, along the entrance walkway, and it gives viewers an insight into their significance and an opportunity to appreciate their majestic beauty. Many thanks to Alika and Kainoa Peterson from A&K Landscaping who generously donated their time and effort to transport and place the pohaku at the site. Scroll down to view a short video of the installation at:



Steve Mechler donated the stone and directed its installation.

<https://www.lkoc.org/lkocwccc-partnership.html#Pohakuinstallation> .



Kalapawai Banyan Treated for Gall Wasp Infestation: During construction at the Kalapawai Triangle roundabout, LKOC has been monitoring the health of the iconic banyan tree planted by LKOC in 1954. In May 2024, observations by Outdoor Circle staff indicated that it appeared to be suffering from gall wasp and lobate lac scale infestation. LKOC alerted Carol Kwan, arborist for the construction project. She has now treated it and asked for increased watering. It is doing much better with new growth

on the crown and limb tips. This treatment should protect the tree for several years. It should also be noted that LKOC alerted the Division of Urban Forestry about similar gall wasp infestation on the Exceptional Tree banyans in the Kailua Central Triangle, and they have been treated as well. (Photo by Carol Kwan taken in August 2024.)

University of Hawaii Arboretum Tour: A docent-led tour of the extraordinary collection of trees at the UH Manoa Campus Arboretum was held on Saturday, September 7, from 9-11 a.m. The wonderful guide, Noweo Kai, the curator for the arboretum led a fascinating and historically informative tour. On view were trees planted by Joseph Rock over a hundred years ago as well as magnificent trees that predate the opening of the College of Hawaii in 1912. (It was renamed the University of Hawaii in 1920.) The tour started in front of Hawaii Hall, the original College building. It was a special treat to see native manu-o-ku white terns nesting in trees. They do not make nests but rather lay their eggs on the branches. This is a must-see tour, and we should all be so proud of the wonderful care taken to maintain all the specimens on campus. LKOC made a donation to the UH Campus Arboretum Fund as a thank you for the tour and the incredible work they do. For an idea of the magnitude of the trees they manage on campus, here is a link to a campus tree map: <https://map.hawaii.edu/maplantfinder/>. Lori Lloyd and Jackie Wah took fabulous photos which you can see in a slide show of the event at: <https://www.lkoc.org/activities-and-events.html>. The magnificent Baobab tree shown in the picture is one of six trees on campus that are on the Exceptional Tree Registry, and it is the largest Baobab specimen in the United States.



Christine Snyder Memorial Dedication: On September 7, 2024, a dedication ceremony was held at Kalaheo High School for the new memorial plaza in front of A-Building in remembrance of the September 11, 2001 attacks (9/11). The Kalaheo High School Foundation added onto the memorial around a granite marker and golden shower tree that was planted in 2002 in honor of Christine Snyder. Christine was a Kalaheo graduate and beloved arborist for The Outdoor Circle (TOC) who perished during the 9/11 attacks. The memorial plaza honors victims of 9/11 and is a quiet gathering place of reflection. Some of the attendees there to honor Christine’s memory included (picture on left): TOC Executive Director Winston Welch, Alika and Kainoa Peterson who did the landscape installation, Christine’s aunt, Leslie Silva, and Butch Adam, Christine’s father-in-law; (middle picture): LKOC members Teddi Baumgartner, Paula Ressa, who was first to suggest a memorial be created at Kalaheo High School, and Bob Ressa; (right picture): an honor guard of Kalaheo High School ROTC members added to the solemnity of the ceremony. Steve Mechler was thanked for being an excellent consultant for the landscaping design.





FLASHBACK *[The flagstone and low lava rock walls described below have been removed. The trees in the Kailua Central Triangle were exceptionalized by LKOC in the early 2000s. These include three Chinese banyans and a Morton Bay fig. As of January 2024, under an adoption program with the City & County, LKOC is providing the monthly landscape maintenance of this triangle that had been neglected for many years.]*

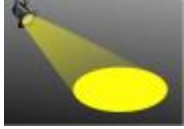
From the Honolulu Advertiser, December 19, 1953, “Kailua Medial Strip Completed in Time for Yule Festival”

Work on the Kailua medial strips and the banyan triangle has been completed through the efforts of the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle and the County rural road workers. The banyan triangle was regrassed and a raised section of flagstone was constructed at the makai end. Low lava rock walls were built around the banyan trees in the flagstoned area.

The largest banyan tree was planted 27 years ago [1926] by the late Lucius C. Tuckerman. Mr. Tuckerman’s lifetime was devoted to the beautification and improvement of Kailua and he had been granted a lifetime honorary membership in the Outdoor Circle. Funds for the face-lifting came from the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle. All work was done by the City-County rural road division.



This picture in 1953 shows the City & County rural road district superintendent shaking hands with LKOC President, Mrs. Herbert Dowsett, and county road crews after the face-lift given the “banyan triangle” in the center of Kailua town. Photo by the Honolulu Advertiser



In the Spotlight

Betsy Connors is shown receiving the Kupuna Award for Outstanding Service to the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle from LKOC President, Diane Harding. The inscription reads: “In recognition and appreciation for your exceptional contribution to LKOC and its success over the years. As past LKOC President, as a leading volunteer and mentor in our Learning to Grow Program, and as an environmental steward and advocate for the protection of our fragile natural resources, you have shown an outstanding commitment to furthering the goals and mission of The Outdoor Circle.”



THE GARDENER'S CORNER



Cheryl McIlroy is a long-time member of the LKOC Board of Directors and one of our key volunteer coordinators for the Town Party. She has many beautiful plants in her garden. Her plant we are showcasing in this issue is what is often referred to as the Christmas heliconia or Red Holiday (*Heliconia angusta*). It produces red and white flowers during the winter months. The plant is smaller than many other heliconia and grows well in pots. Notice the rain chain that she uses to help water the plant. If you are interested in getting a plant clipping, send an email to: Lani-kailua@outdoorcircle.org.



TREES OF KAILUA

Division of Urban Forestry Plants Trees in Kailua

LKOC Advisor, Claudia Webster, worked with Roxanne Adams, the new City & County of Honolulu Division of Urban Forestry (DUF) Director to plant two new trees on Aulike Street in Kailua. Tregator bags or “Gator bags” are used to water newly planted trees. In the picture on the left below, a City & County of Honolulu worker is shown with a water truck as he refills the gator bag for a recently planted dwarf white tecoma tree on Aulike Street. The picture on the right was taken on September 10, 2024 and shows some tiny white flowers starting to blossom.

LKOC President, Diane Harding, said that the new DUF director has been very responsive in getting trees planted on Oneawa Street and several on Kailua Road in front of the Salvation Army. The next Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle tree planting project with DUF will be on Keolu Drive.



Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle Board Roster 2024-2025

Officers

President: Diane Harding >262-1826

Vice President: Ken Curtis

Treasurer: Kathleen Bryan

Asst. Treasurer: Francine Mendes

Recording Secretary: Teddi Baumgartner

Corresponding Secretary: Nani Vermillion

Nominating Committee: Ad Hoc committee

Advisors: Margaret Brezel, Lyn Turner, & Claudia Webster



Committee Chairs

Beautification: Steve Mechler >341-1802

Communications: Teddi Baumgartner >888-9977

Education: Betsy Connors >261-8839

Historian: Diane Harding >262-1826

Kailua Town Party: Diane Harding

Membership: Barbara Krasniewski >384-2879

Programs: Pam Ross >754-0257

Scholarship: Betsy Connors

Volunteers: Barbara Krasniewski

WCCC Partnership: Betsy Connors

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

Other: _____

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.