FRIENDS of HALEAKALĀ NATIONAL PARK

Spring 2008 P.O. Box 322 Makawao, HI 96790 www.fhnp.org Hanakauhi (8750') From Kapalaoa

Mahalo Nui Loa to Mary Evanson and Cathy Davenport

The Friends of Haleakalā National Park newsletter is an important communication link to our many friends, residents and visitors interested in Park issues and events. After almost 10 years as editors, writers and publishers of the FHNP newsletter, Mary Evanson and Cathy Davenport have moved on to other projects. The Friends are grateful to both of them for their many years of service and friendship.

It takes a team of committed behind-the-scenes volunteers to publish this informative piece twice a year. Even the Friends board of directors contributes by folding and stamping the newsletter for mailing. Others contribute articles, ideas, expertise and energy.

Mary Evanson has been keeping you informed on all manner of topics. As editor, it has been her job to set a theme, contact authors, collect photos, coordinate and edit articles and all else that goes into producing a quality publication. Occasionally, Evanson contributes her own articles too.

Mary's most devoted partner has been Cathy Davenport. Davenport has volunteered her time as an author, artist, photographer and publisher. Her expert design skills have always made the finished product attractive and easy to read.

Mahalo Mary and Cathy!

If you have skills as a writer, editor, photographer, graphic artist, or electronic media publisher, and would like to help the Friends, please write to us at *fhnp@earthlink.net*. ■

Native Forest Conservation on Cable Ridge

by Scott Crawford

For the last five years the Kipahulu 'Ohana has been active in native forest conservation efforts in Kipahulu Valley, in the area known as Cable Ridge.

The native forest area mauka on Cable Ridge is a traditional gathering place for maile and other cultural plants, as well as hunting. In 1980 the United Nations designated the upper area of the valley as an International Biosphere Reserve, in recognition of the precious, unique, and threatened biological diversity in the watershed's endemic forest.

In recent years, however, feral goats have had a devastating effect on the native vegetation. The maile is scarce now, and many other native plants are struggling, including some very rare and endangered species.

Through a \$10,000 contract with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and much community kokua, over two acres of fenced exclosures have been installed on state forest land at Cable Ridge over the last five years. These exclosures now protect many rare and precious plants that were being devastated by goats. There is the haha (*Cyenia asplenifolia*), previously thought to be extinct and the alani (*Melicope ovalis*) and *Huperzia manii*, both very rare and listed as endangered.

Since the fencing was installed the native plants are making a strong recovery in the protected area. The haha and other native keiki are sprouting up. The maile is more abundant. It is apparent that the seed bank is still present Native Forest Conservation on Cable Ridge - continued from page 1

in the soil, and once the goat pressure is removed, the native forest can return.

Our short-term goal in the restored area is to create a protected biological island of native plants that will serve as a seed bank for restoration efforts once the goats are removed from the larger surrounding area.

As the next phase of the Cable Ridge management project we plan to greatly expand the fenced area protected from feral goats, continue removal of invasive plants (such as African tulip, Clidemia and Australian tree fern), and propagate native species into the area.

Along with protecting these rare and precious plants from extinction, our long-term goal is the protection of the watershed. A healthy native forest, with its sponge-like floor of ferns and mosses, is the source of water, and thus life, for the ahupua'a, connecting with and sustaining the lo'i kalo and the kai below.

If you are interested in being involved in the Cable Ridge restoration efforts, please contact us at 248-8673 or *ohana@kipahulu.org*.

Scott Crawford is the Executive Director of the Kipahulu 'Ohana. ■



Three toothed hinihina – Geranium tridens

News from the Park

Volunteer Recognition

Long-time Maui residents, environmentalists, civic groups and Maui high schools were celebrated for giving thousands of hours to Haleakalā National Park.

Superintendent Marilyn H. Parris honored their years of volunteer service at a private awards luncheon held at the park May 12, 2008. The event was dedicated to twenty individuals and organizations among many hundreds of volunteers who lend their professional skills to the conservation of Haleakalā. The FHNP was credited with contributing 4,251 volunteer hours from 2005 to 2007. In

total, volunteers contributed over 48,000 hours of service to Haleakala over the past three years.

Centennial Initiative

Anticipating the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the National Park System (NPS) in 2016 the NPS issued the Centennial Challenge, a 10-year program to reinvigorate America's national parks for a second century of conservation, preservation, and enjoyment. The Centennial initiative provides both base funding for the Parks and matching funds for selected Centennial Projects.

Haleakalā National Park will also reach its centennial anniversary in 2016. The Challenge has approved one of its Centennial Projects which will provide \$2.2 million over a two year period. The NPS Centennial Challenge will contribute \$500,000 per year and the Maui Invasive Species Committee will contribute \$600,000 in 2008.

Funds will be spent on invasive weed eradication, outplanting rare species, and educating youth through a Hawai'i centered education curriculum. The work will be done in partnership with groups including State Dept. of Land and Natural Resources, Haleakalā Ranch, East Maui Watershed Partnership, NPS, County of Maui, Native Hawaiian Practitioners, and Maui Invasive Species Council.

The following 2005 data provides an idea of the diversity of the park, the rarity of species here on Maui, and the threat of invasive species.

- 189 Hawai'ian Endemic Plants in the park (they exist nowhere else but here)
- ✤ 41 endemic plants specific to Maui
- ✤ 57 plants that occur nowhere else but the park
- 1000+ invertebrates unique to the park
- 21 Polynesian introduced species of plant in the park, with 301 alien plant species (and counting)

Argonauta Project

Argonauta is the name given to a house, built by the Lindbergh family in the Kipahulu region on Maui. In 2003, the Historic Hawaii Foundation, Greg Marshall and Haleakalā National Park entered into a general agreement regarding the Argonauta project. The project was designed to enable the Historic Hawai'i Foundation and Greg Marshall to remove the Argonauta house from its original location and reconstruct it on NPS property, in the Park's development area in Kipahulu. The resulting structure was to serve as a Conservation Center for use by the NPS and other organizations and to provide an interpretive exhibit area open to the public.

For a time, the Friends of Haleakalā solicited and collected funds for this project. In its early stages, the structure was

News from the Park - continued from page 2

dismantled, removed from its site, and the materials transported to Haleakalā National Park, where they are stored today. A cement foundation was poured at the new site.

The project has languished for many years and was the subject of a lawsuit brought by Mr. Marshall against the Historic Hawai'i Foundation naming the Park as an interested party. On March 19, 2008 a jury trial was completed.

While Mr. Marshall remains a proponent of the project, and still owns the Argonauta house materials, the time limit for completion of the project provided in the original agreement has lapsed. Furthermore, the NPS believes that the historical integrity of the structure has been lost and that it is not relevant to the mission of Haleakalā National Park nor is it relevant to the rich native Hawaiian ties in the area.

The Park has asked Mr. Marshall to remove the Argonauta materials from the site and plans to remove the cement foundation and restore the site to its previous condition.

Commercial Services Plan

The National Park Service is reinitiating the commercial services planning process for Haleakalā National Park. Public scoping has already been conducted for the Commercial Service Plan. However, due to the recent safety stand-down of bicycle tours, the park is reopening the scoping process. The purpose of this planning effort is to evaluate the impacts of the commercial service operations, identify the appropriate level of commercial service operations at the park and to develop a framework for managing these services to provide high-quality visitor experiences while protecting the unique natural and cultural resources within the park.

The public is invited and encouraged to be a part of this planning process. Commercial services include activities such as tours provided by horseback, van, bus, hiking groups, and star gazing. The Hawai'i Natural History Association, a not-forprofit organization in the park that provides educational services through books, posters, and thematic items, is also included as would be any additional concessions.

The public comment period runs through June 10th, 2008. You can participate by writing via letter or e-mail. For inquires, comments, or to place your name on a newsletter mailing list, write to;

Commercial Services Plan C/O Superintendent Haleakalā National Park PO Box 369 Makawao, HI 96768

Electronic inquires can be sent via e-mail to *HALE_CSP@nps.gov*

Volunteering for Haleakalā

Haleakalā National Park and the Friends of Haleakalā sponsor an active volunteer program. Information on a wide range of opportunities is available at the National Park Service website (*www.nps.gov/hale*) or you can write the volunteer coordinator at *HALE_VIP_Coordinator@nps.gov* or Haleakala National Park, POB 369, Makawao, HI 96768 or call 572-4487. The Friends sponsors a regular series of Service Trips and Service/Learning Trips into the backcountry



and in the Kipahulu region of the Park. Participants on back-country trips must be fit enough to hike round-trip to the cabins with all their own food and clothing. Service work may include native plant restoration, invasive species removal, native habitat improvement, seed collection and cabin maintenance. A Park Ranger accompanies the

Service/Learning Trips, held 3 or 4 times a year. They share the unique history, geology, biology and mythology of the area. A \$15 per person fee is charged to defray cabin costs. Other Service Trips are free (in exchange for additional service work) except for the cost of the community dinners.

In January 2008 a group of Friends worked with NPS staff in the back country to restore an area with native plants. A variety of native trees, shrubs and grasses were planted. Many of these were raised from seeds collected from the park by volunteers on previous trips.

In April 2008 the team stayed at Kapalaoa cabin where they started a cabin restoration project. The exterior of two sides of the cabin was scraped to remove the weathered and loose paint and primer applied. The cabin was left looking a bit unusual, with swaths of white on a brown background. The resident pair of nēnē didn't seem to mind.

The planned *June 21-24 trip* is a special one. Instead of staying in the cabins, the group will hike across the Ko'olau gap on an unmaintained trail and tent camp in an area named Waikau on the eastern edge of the gap. The site is near an old (and raised) cabin close to the border between the NPS property and Nature Conservancy land. This is a beautiful area that is off the beaten path. The FHNP has special permission to camp there for service work. The NPS is supporting the trip by supplying a water drop. While seldom seen by Park visitors, this area is a popular site for the invasive *heterotheca* weed. Participants will spend their weekend pulling the plants and bagging their seeds.

Volunteering for Haleakalā - continued from page 3

If you would like to participate in a service trip, visit *www.fhnp.org*, create an FHNP Account, log-in and fill in the Service Trip Readiness Certification section. (You only need to do this step once). Then, call Farley (808)248-7660 or Matt (808)876-1673 to make a reservation or learn more. ■

Friends of Haleakalā National Park 2008 Service Trip Schedule

| Dates | Location |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| June 21-24 | Waikau – Tent Camping |
| July 4-6 | Palikū cabin – Service/ Learning |
| Aug. 9-12 | Kapalaoa cabin |
| Sept. 27-29 | Palikū cabin – Service/ Learning |
| Oct. 11-13 | Hōlua cabin |
| Nov. 8-10 | Kapalaoa cabin |
| Dec. 6-8 | TBD |

Giving Back to Maui

by Lorrie Jieh, 30 Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Okay, Okay...you caught me. I'm a fraud and a tourist. I don't look like one but I transplanted here from the mainland in November. I came here for the same reasons everyone else did. Peace, quiet, good vibes, great scenery, and lots of water. Maui seems to like me. I almost feel like it's too good to be true. Maui probably likes you too since she gives so much. I almost feel guilty sometimes. How can this island be so beautiful and love me so much when I'm not even from here? If Maui wants to give to me then I would turn around and give right back to her.

That's when I hooked up with Matt Wordeman and Friends of Haleakala. Matt helps coordinate a volunteer hike inside the crater and it is by far the coolest thing I've done since I got here.

"Hi, is this the volunteer service hike?"

- "Yes"
- "Can you tell me more about it?"

"We hike through the crater and remove invasive plant species." "I'm not in the best shape; do you think I can still do it?"

"Sure ... it's not strenuous and you get to stay in the cabin."

"I don't know about that. It sounds kind of hard"

"You can do it. I'll go ahead a sign you up"

I later thanked Matt for talking me into doing the service trip but I was kind of nervous after the phone call. The following morning, I met Matt in Pukalani along with a commercial scuba diver chick that happens to share my name, two surfers who roomed together, an autistic teachers' director and her 10 year

Visit FHNP on the Web

Now you can let us know your preferences for receiving information about Haleakalā. Simply go to *www.fhnp.org*, create an FHNP account, and log in. There you can update your mailing address, sign up to receive the newsletter (choose e-mail or postal service – we recommend electronic delivery to reduce costs and conserve resources) and opt-in to our e-mail distribution list.

The e-mail distribution list is used to disseminate information about service trips, evening programs, or other important messages related to the Park. You will receive approximately one message monthly.

The website also has news, service trip schedule and links to other interesting sites. \blacksquare



Now You Can Donate On-line!

Through the updated FHNP website located at *www.fhnp.org* you can now make secure, on-line credit card donations to either the Adopt-a-Nēnē program, or to the FHNP general account. Just follow the links until you see t



You can charge a one-time or periodic gift to your credit card and receive a receipt for tax purposes. If you are adopting a nēnē, you will have the chance to tell us where to send the adoption papers. FHNP

Try it out – save paper, stamp and time! ■

will receive your gift minus a minimal processing fee.

continued on page 5

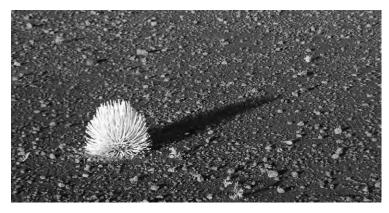
old daughter, and a Japanese couple. This was our gang and we would be camping together all weekend.

Our hike began at the Crater's summit. We began the descent on the Sliding Sands trail. It didn't look real but more like a scene from some alien space movie. It was like nothing I'd ever seen before. We examined plant life that only exists in this magical place. We were all pretty quiet as we tracked down the trail noticing lots of strange looking silver plants scattered throughout the terrain.

We got to the cabin and began to set up. The clouds were doing some extremely strange things that night. I threw my stuff down, claimed a bunk, and passed out. I kept thinking about how much stress I had been putting myself through over on the mainland. Six miles of walking kicked my butt.

When I woke up, everyone was hanging out and making a vegetarian dinner. Sine the cabin did not have electricity, candles were the main lighting source and they were everywhere. I took some boiled water and went outside to wash up. For a moment in my life, I actually felt renewed. We all sat together "community style" at the table while we ate and shared adventure stories. I began to realize that I was surrounded by some amazing people from all over the world. I kept thinking that I must have done something right in my life because these events don't just happen. That night, I went to sleep with a bit of smile on my face and excitement in my chest.

The next morning after breakfast, we went on the mission. Our mission: to eradicate evasive plant species. We packed light and began our mission to eradicate the non-native enemy. Hey, wait...that would be me. Actually, for that rainy, cold Saturday, it was this dandelion looking plant that didn't look intimidating at all. I was looking for a huge ferntype fly trap or something. Something big that just took over the crater but there it was. A little yellow flower (*heteroteica:ed*) that looked like it should have been hanging out in the Northwest during springtime and definitely not in



'*Āhinahina* – silversword - in the morning



Ka Lu'u o ka ' \overline{O} ' \overline{o} – from Keonehe'ehe'e trail

the Crater during winter. Okay team! It's time to take out the aliens! We were all assigned areas to cover. We were too meet back in a couple of hours with a total count of all our kills. The rain was pouring down and the wind was biting but it didn't stop us from our mission. Oh boy, oh boy, we're going hunting and after a mile or so of walking, I spotted some. They were so common looking and not like any of the other exotic plants that belonged there. We began to hunt and after a good hour or so, people were finding 50, 60, even hundreds. I looked at my pile and saw a measly six plants, so much for my hunting ability. After our search, we hiked up to Crystal Caves and had lunch. Everyone had eradicated many plants. I had a measly 20 but it was alright because I was still there.

I have to admit, I was a little bummed that my plant count was the lowest but then again, I'm a non-native taking out non-natives...lol. The following morning made up for everything. After breakfast and clean up, we began to hike the most beautiful hike I had ever seen. The sun was shinning, the temperature was cool, and spirits were high. Definitely worth everything I had ever been through in my life. I'd tell you more about that day but if there's one thing I learned while being on this rock, it's not to give everything away. You are just going to have to find out for yourself. What I will tell you is that I left the mainland looking for a different way of living and relating to others and our environment. That sticker that you've probably seen if you've been inside any local gift shop sums it up the best. "Wouldn't it be nice if the whole word lived Aloha"? So perhaps you can find some time to give back to Maui. Trust me, it's worth it! You can get in touch Matt and Friends of Haleakala by calling (808) 876-1673. You can also check out their website at www.fhnp.org which has some amazing pictures of the trails, the people, and some of the secret places inside the crater that the volunteers get to see. See you at the top! \blacksquare

Mahalo Ali'i Donors

Mahalo to the following contributors of \$100 or more in 2007. Your generous support of both the Adopt-a-Nēnē program and the Friends of Haleakalā general fund is greatly appreciated.

Altshuler, Joshua & Ethan Newbury Park, CA

Bastis, David & Celia, In Memory of Thomas & Ruth -Alson Bastis Round Rock, TX

> Best, Bill & Bobbie Wailuku, HI

Biondi, John & Gina Santa Cruz, CA

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Zajac, Marian & Luis Haiku, HI

Support the Friends of Haleakalā National Park

Who we are ...

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting Haleakalā National Park achieve the purposes and goals for which it was established: To preserve Haleakalā's unique eco-systems, scenic character and associated native Hawaiian cultural and spiritual resources so as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

What we do ...

Facilitate volunteerism to accomplish projects recommended by park staff.

Monitor actions and activities that could impact the Haleakalā.

Urge responsible use of the Park by the public. Provide financial assistance for the benefit of the Park by soliciting funds from the general public.



Promote programs such as Adopt-a-Nēnē to generate funds that will enhance the protection and preservation of the endangered natural resources of the Park.

Implement programs and activities that increase public awareness and appreciation of the Park and its highly diverse geological and biological resources.

What you can do ...

Join the Friends of Haleakalā National Park Adopt-a-Nēnē – an unusual gift idea. Become a Volunteer in the Park Sign up to Service Projects.

Serve on the Board of Directors or Advisory Board of the Friends. We need new Board members!

The Adopt-a- Nēnē Program ...

was developed as a fun and educational way for you to become a part of the projects that are being conducted in Haleakalā National Park. The nēnē is an endemic bird on the Federal List of Endangered Species, with an estimated population in the Park of 250. By adopting a nēnē, you will be helping protect not only the nēnē, but all endangered species and their important habitat in the Park.

REGULAR Supporters receive "adoption papers" that include information about your nēnē, an adoption certificate and a nēnē postcard.

MĀLAMA Supporters receive a postcard pack and all gifts given to Regular supporters.

ALI'I Supporters receive an exclusive 5"x7" matted nēnē photo and all gifts given to Regular supporters. They will have their names displayed at the Park.

ALI'I NUI Supporter receive an exclusive 8"x10" matted nēnē photo, a special certificate for display and all gifts given to Regular supporters. They will also have their names displayed in the Park. ■

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