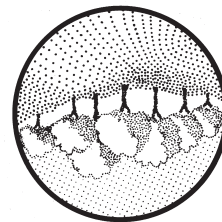


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P.O. Box 6144  
**Waimea Outdoor Circle**



The Membership Committee of WOC would like to thank the following individuals for their support as new members or re-newing members. Our membership is now over 300 strong and the Waimea Outdoor Circle is a positive influence in our community as we endeavor to "Keep Waimea Clean, Green and Beautiful."

**Welcome New Members:**

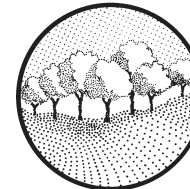
Kristin and William Kurtz, Conna and Gerald Smith, Karl Taubman

**Mahalo to all Renewing Members:**

Aikane Nursery - Barrie Moss, Kumiko Akiyama, Mary Andrews, Valerie Berdon, Ken and Arlene Block, Graciella and Craig Borisoff, Helen Burlingame, Georgine Busch, Jo Ann and Phillip Conley, Joanne Coon, Pamela Davis, Father Tom Donnelly, Kauai Doyle, Gordon Fernandez, Judy and Jim Frazier, Donna and Murray Gardner, Miachael Gibson, Alice Guild, Henryetta "Tooty" Hager, Kadie Harris, Karin and Erik Hazelhoff, Healthways II, Carolyn Heinrich, Elizabeth Heller, Carol and Pete Hendricks, Tana and Hank Hilliard, Mary and Robert Hunter, Ann and Oliver Hutaff Jr., Cathlene Jardine, Richard Jeffery, Kamuela Inn, Mary and John Kitchen, Bets and Frank Lawrence, Pete L'Orange, Katy Lowrey, Karen Martin, Charlotte Meyer, Izzy Nelson, Kathy Peters, Pegi and Niall Scully, Carly and Robert Shepherd, Fran Tabor, Mary Ann and Hal Ward, Linda West, Leona Wishard and Jackie Wright.

**Some Suitable Trees  
For Planting In  
the Waimea Area**

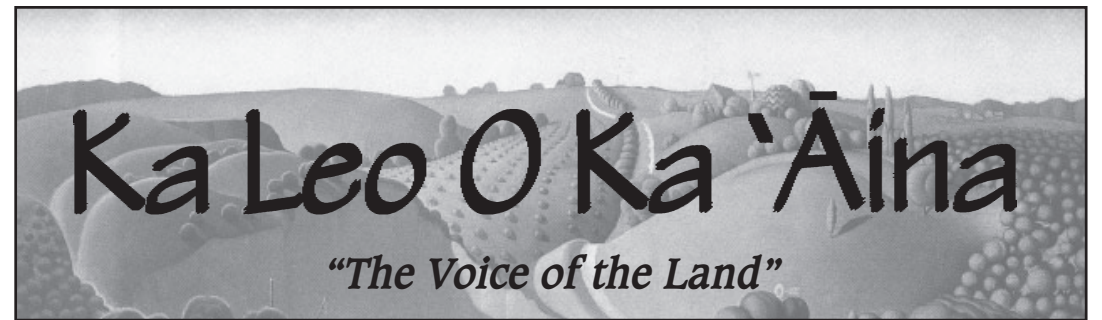
NATIVE	OTHERS
A'ali'	Avocado
'Aheahea	Calliandra
Hoawa	Cherimoya
Koa	Cherry
Koai'a	False Olive
Kolea	Lemon
Kou	Lime
Kulu'i	Loquat
Loulu	Mulberry
Naio	Orange
'Ohe	Paperbark
Ohia	Persimmon
Wiliwili	Pineapple
	Guava
	Sugi Pine
	Tangerine



**Waimea  
Outdoor  
Circle**

**Board of Directors  
and  
Committee Chairs**

**PRESIDENT**  
Victor Obrastoff  
**VICE PRESIDENTS**  
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Carolyn Heinrich  
Mary Mangarin-Kitchen  
Roz Wright  
**TREASURER**  
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**ASST. TREASURER**  
Donna Gardner  
**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
Shelby Floyd  
**CORRESPONDING  
SECRETARY**  
Mary Hunter  
**ADVISORS**  
Arlene Block  
JoAnn Conley  
Carol Hendricks  
**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
Laurie Ainslie  
Donna Gardner  
Carolyn Heinrich  
Kathrin Kohler  
Bets Lawrence  
**EVENTS**  
Arlene Block  
**MEMBERSHIP**  
Carolyn Heinrich  
**NATURE PARK CHAIR**  
Carol Hendricks  
**NEWSLETTER**  
Kadie Harris  
**PLANT SALE**  
Dodie Zuke  
**SIGNS**  
Karin Hazelhoff  
**EDUCATION**  
Roz Wright  
**RECYCLING**  
Dee Chapon  
Jesse Wells



**FALL 2005**

**PARK BAZAAR**

Our Fall fundraiser for the Nature Park will be held Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> from 9 A.M. until 2 P.M. at the Community Center at Waimea Park this year. Due to bad weather, low turn out, and the cost of tents, the Makahiki at the Nature Park has been cancelled. We now have a new venue and a new fundraiser. The annual "Powwow" will be going on in Waimea Park at the same time, providing good visibility and walk-by traffic which should help us.

If you are able to help, please call to volunteer. We need a volunteer coordinator, organizers, set up crew, cashiers, pre-checkers, hosts and hostesses and, as always, a clean-up crew.

Your generous donations have always been the driving force in the development of Ulu La'au. Please check at home for "white elephant" items: (art, household items, books, jewelry, tools, better toys in working order - no missing pieces, etc.) Home grown plants will be a large section. It's a little late to start seeds, but we can separate overcrowded plants and start cuttings if done now. **NO USED CLOTHES PLEASE.**

We're looking for good quality (just a little shy of silent auction quality) items. If we get more costly things we will have a silent auction. **PLEASE HELP!** The more donations we get, the more successful this event will be.

Items can be dropped off at Ulu La'au August 20<sup>th</sup> and Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> from 9 A.M. until 12 P.M. We will store them in our container. If that isn't possible, please bring donations to the WOC office Mondays from 10 A.M. until 2 P.M. We can offer pick-up service for large items. Plants should be delivered at the last moment to the Community Center. Please call for instructions. Call Carol at 885-4453, or Victor at 887-0500, or the WOC office at 885-5210.

*Thanks for your assistance.*

**2005 BEAUTIFICATION AND SERVICE AWARDS**

At this year's annual meeting in May, WOC presented two beautification awards. Karin Hazelhoff, sign chair, presented an award for the beautiful sign at Malama Pono Center designed by WOC member Calley O'Neil. Maluhia trustees James Pelosi and Marcelle Loren accepted on behalf of the Center and Lamar Yokum accepted on behalf of Ms. O'Neil.

A second award was presented to HPA's/Issac's Art Center for the exquisite and authentic restoration of an historic Waimea schoolhouse. Accepting were HPA headmaster Dr. Olaf Jorgenson, curator Bernard Nogues and restoration specialist Tom Quinlan.

Outgoing President Arlene Block gave service awards to Leningrad Elarionoff for his dedication and hard work in Ulu La'au, to Carolyn Stewart for her grant writing expertise on behalf of Ulu La'au and to Victor Obrastoff for his untiring work on behalf of WOC.

P.O. Box 6144 Kamuela, HI 96743 (808) 885-5210 e-mail: woc@aloha.net

### President's Message

As the new president of WOC, the first order of business is to sincerely thank some very important people for their support: Arlene Block for her dynamic leadership the past four years and the past and present Board of Directors and Advisors for their hard work, encouragement and giving me a "crash course" on plants, people and projects. I am relatively new to WOC and am coping with a significant challenge – I have not been a gardener! My previous education did not include "Flora 101." My wife, Mary, is the gardener in the family, but I am currently clipping, cultivating and composting like an "old pro." (At least the "old" is correct).

When I accepted this position, I did not fully realize the full significance of all that the Outdoor Circle is. Now I realize what a marvelous institution WOC is and am thrilled to be a part of this organization and its many civic projects: the maintenance of Anuenue Playground; the campaign to prevent proliferation of illegal signs and billboards; the WOC plant sale and the continued development of Waimea's Nature Park. I ask for your continued support and involvement as we strive to continue our present projects: The WOC motto is: "To keep Waimea clean, green and beautiful." There is still much more that can be accomplished with your assistance. Let us continue to recognize the special place that is Waimea and work together to achieve our present and future goals. More about future goals in the next newsletter.

Sincerely,

*Victor V. Obrastoff*  
Victor V. Obrastoff

### ULU LA'AU VOLUNTEER DAYS

Mark your calendars for the rest of this year with the Nature Park volunteer days. We are trying to hold a class, talk or demonstration once a month. Many times these cannot be planned too far in advance so check the newspaper as they will be publicized. Also Ken Block is sending out email notifications of up-coming volunteer days around Wednesday for the following Saturday. If you are not getting his messages and wish to be informed of what we are doing each day, email him at kenblock@prodigy.net.

All volunteer days are on Saturday from 9-noon with light refreshments served about noon.

Water, gloves and tools are provided.

**August 20**

**September 10**

Hands-on class on equipment care and maintenance by Ken Block and David Stubbs

**September 24**

Fundraiser for WNP at Waimea Community Center (see article on front page)

**October 8 and 22**

**November 5**

Hands on class on pesticide use and alternatives with Coletta and Craig Witherspoon)

**November 19**

**December 3 and 17**



### A SPECIAL DAY WITH MARIE MCDONALD

We were honored to spend a morning in Ulu La'au with "Living Treasure", Marie McDonald. In her warm and very interesting way she taught us about growing lei materials in our own gardens. It was surprising to learn the variety of native and non-native plants we can grow at home for lei making.

She also demonstrated the different methods for lei making, and brought samples for all to enjoy.

A very important part of her message is conservation of our natural resources in the wild. The more we grow at home, the less stress it is on our environment.

We are very lucky Marie is so generous with her knowledge. Mahalo to our very special neighbor.



### ARLENE'S BENCH

The board of WOC surprised outgoing president Arlene Block at her last annual meeting as President by presenting her a plaque for a soon-to- be-delivered bench for the Nature Park. When it arrived, she chose a high spot overlooking the waterfall and Puu Hokulua. The plaque says; Mahalo Arlene Block, dynamic president WOC, staunch supporter Ulu La'au, 2005.

Come and have a sit on Arlene's bench.

### STUMPS REMOVED AT THE NATURE PARK

Access to the parking area and greenhouse at the Nature Park has been impeded by a number of tree stumps for some time. As attendance to classes offered at WNP has increased, these stumps have been a continuing problem. However, the stumps are no more thanks to one of our volunteers, David Stubbs, who brought a stump grinder to the Park on two occasions and removed the stumps to below ground level. Now it is possible to drive to the class area without damaging our vehicles. Our volunteers continue to provide much needed assistance. The park owes its existence in great part to the help received by our many volunteers. Mahalo Park Volunteers!

The Waimea Outdoor Circle Board Meetings are on the first Monday of each month at our office in the historic Lindsey House, behind High Country Traders, at 1:30PM.

**"PLEASE NOTE" YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MONTH IS PRINTED AT THE BOTTOM OF YOUR MAILING LABEL. MAHALO FOR RENEWING ON TIME!**

### Waimea Outdoor Circle

**Yes!** I want to help keep Waimea "Clean, Green and Beautiful"

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my Annual membership contribution of:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 (62 yrs) Senior \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Family/Business Associate \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 Friend  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Beautification/Business Partner \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000 Patron/Life member

I am interested in volunteering for the following (please mark all that apply):

\_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising \_\_\_\_\_ Office Help \_\_\_\_\_ Special Events  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Hospitality \_\_\_\_\_ Parks & Trees \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Tree  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Plant Sale \_\_\_\_\_ Underground Wiring  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Recycling/Anti-litter \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Education  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Nature Park \_\_\_\_\_ Signs

Please make your tax deductible check to: **Waimea Outdoor Circle**

Mail to: **Waimea Outdoor Circle • P.O. Box 6144, Kamuela, HI 96743**

**Mahalo!**

## WAIMEA TRAIL UPDATE

The Waimea Trail continues to surmount hurdles and is alive and well. Last week's hurdle was an emergency meeting with representatives of the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); the Carter Professional Center; Canada France Telescope and the Waimea Outdoor Circle. Clem Lam, Chairman of the Trail Committee, requested the emergency meeting to discuss the route of the trail along the property line between the Carter Professional Center and the WOC's Nature Park. The Nature Park is located on land leased from the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) while Waikoloa Stream, which forms part of the boundary, falls under the jurisdiction of the NRCS. So it was fortunate that representatives of NRCS were able to attend the meeting held at the site on short notice.

The focus of the meeting was to deal with an offer from Carter Professional Center to remove some large eucalyptus trees which were in the way of the proposed trail. Richard Waller, Park Planner for WOC, implored the group to carefully study the situation and avoid any hasty and destructive action. Mr. Waller said that eucalyptus trees have a "bad reputation" due to a lack of understanding. He stated that, "if pruned effectively, these magnificent living trees could and should remain as they are among the last stands of such trees in central Waimea and that they provide important service as windbreaks, protection for newly planted Hawaiian trees and a habitat for local birds." He cautioned that the extensive root systems of the trees were pivotal to the maintenance of the stream banks. If the trees were removed the stream bank would surely collapse and erosion would destroy the protective berm between the stream and the parking lots for both the Carter buildings and the buildings at Canada France.

Carol Hendricks, WOC Chair for the Nature Park, reminded the fifteen people assembled that the Nature Park is named Ulu La'au for historical reasons citing that name being recorded on a 1914 map of the area. Ulu La'au means "the place where trees grow" and Mrs. Hendricks spoke of the need to preserve these trees.

After considerable discussion and a tour of the site, several proposals were offered: (1) Carolyn Wong, of NRCS, suggested that it might be possible to reinforce the stream side in critical places with large rocks. This reinforced surface could then become the foundation for the trail. (2) Mr. Lam said that his committee would consider a narrower pathway through this critical area. (3) Carter Center representative, Tim Poole, stated that he would recommend working with all parties to achieve an amicable solution and Derrick Salmon, representing Canada France, concurred that his organization would be willing to help in achieving a viable solution. (4) Victor Obrastoff, President of WOC, reiterated WOC's support for the Waimea Trail and offered to work with Mr. Lam to have the trail on the Nature Park's boundary.

Ms. Wong suggested that the interested parties might be able to agree upon a "letter of understanding" regarding this area. If so, she suggested that her department would be

willing to assist in attaining the necessary permits to complete the project.

Since that meeting was held, several steps have been taken in preparation for such a document: Kaz Shigezawa of Landscape Images, Inc., has provided Mr. Lam with preliminary engineering drawings showing how the stream bank could be reinforced and Mr. Lam has contacted all parties concerned and suggested that we work together to "make the Waimea Trail happen!"



### LENINGRAD'S GROVE

Maybe you have seen the sign in the newest planting area behind the two containers and wondered why we have named the area after Leningrad. He has been a consistent volunteer but unknown to many he has also been working for over a year to get a grove of large ohias started in the Park. Leningrad owns land in Ka'u and from there he has been transplanting large ohias into this area. After several attempts he seems to have seven nice trees well established. He has replaced ones that did not make it and regularly checks on them, prunes and waters them. Come by to see for yourself what a pleasant grove this has become. Mahalo, Leningrad, we all think you are "da best".

The photo shows a couple of the Ohias with the kupukupu ferns we are using as the under-story plant. In the background is the old wooden picnic table we re-located to this area.

### THE SEARCH FOR RICHARD'S POSITION

We are sad that Richard Waller is leaving us and we must plan for the future. NO HE CAN'T BE REPLACED.

Richard has been much more than a Park Planner, designing plantings at Ulu La'au. He has managed the Park, watching over plants and irrigation and giving volunteers direction. He has been our teacher and has set the whole philosophy for our Park in caring for the native environment. Richard has given us credibility with experts throughout the State who are now well aware of our Park project.

If we are unable to find one person to fill all of these duties, we may look for more than one person. Ideally we will find a person or persons early enough to work with Richard before he departs. First we need a horticultural manager by the end of August. Second, an overseer/contact person, who will also report on grants, is needed by the end of October. Third, a landscape planner, will be needed by the end of 2006.

We have a committee working on this and have already talked with interested parties. Please call Carol Hendricks at 885-4453, or Victor Obrastoff at 887-0500 if you are interested or know of someone who might be interested in working with us.

July 27, 2005

Dear Members of the Waimea Outdoor Circle,

*It is with the saddest feeling that I must tell you I am leaving Hawaii and my place with the Waimea Nature Park. Family and other considerations have made it necessary for me to move to the mainland at the end of this year.*

*Since 1991 when I participated in the playground landscaping at Waimea Park thru this fifth year of the Waimea Nature Park, it has been my great luck to work with a seriously committed and caring group of people. The WOC's work in North Hawaii is a creative force in a town experiencing profound physical and social change. It's been a circle of unselfish members, mostly women, who have consistently produced beautiful and caring improvements. It's been the same group who has stood up against the careless destruction of the natural world here.*

*Our little Park in the middle of town is an example of what a small group of people can do. It is a refuge from stress, a site for critical biological conservation and a democratic gathering place for the entire community.*

*As the park committee searches for a new park planner I hope the Outdoor Circle will remain open to new ideas and fresh approaches to the work at hand. My leaving will by necessity cause some readjustment, but it is also an opportunity to reach further into the diverse Waimea community.*

*During the next months I will do everything I can to assist with this transition.*

*I am grateful for everyone's contribution that made my work here both meaningful and enjoyable. I've been very fortunate to be a part of this group.*

Thank you all.

With Aloha,



Richard Waller



Arlene Block shows Michael Wung his assignment!

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

**Saturday, February 11  
2006 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM  
Kuhio Hale**

We will hold our annual plant sale in conjunction with Waimea Homestead Farmers' Market. All in one place you will be able to purchase a wide variety of plants for your yard, fruits and vegetables for your table, specialty gourmet items and fresh cut flowers, and gift items from a select craft fair. Please note this is the following weekend AFTER the Cherry Blossom Festival.

Our sale is now the largest plant sale in North Hawaii and just getting better and better. In addition to our usual plant sale we are hosting a specialized craft fair featuring garden crafts, pots, tiles, trellises, etc. Parking should be much easier and vendors are already considering what to grow and bring. Do you have a particular request for a plant that you cannot readily get in our local area? Please phone the office and leave you name and phone number and request. We will try and find a vendor that might be able to fill your request. It must be done soon though because the vendors need time to grow your request.

As always we have a huge demand for boxes, please start saving them now. Does anyone on the dry side of town have a place that we might store boxes? Please call the office.

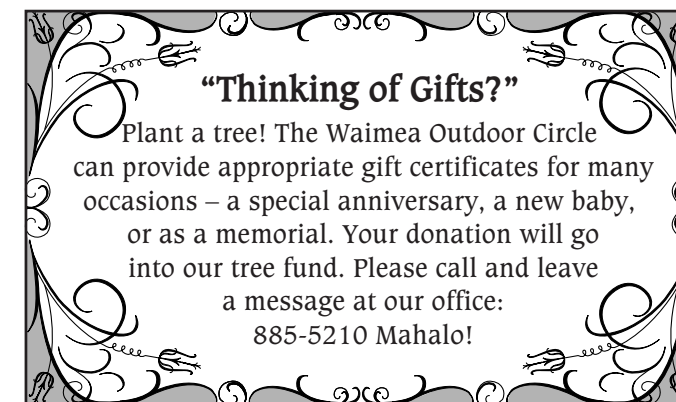
We are always on the lookout for volunteers for this event. A "perk" for volunteering is the opportunity to buy plants the night before the sale. If you are interested in volunteering please call the office and leave your name and phone number and you will be contacted. Reminder, the best and most "fun" jobs go early so now isn't too early to call.

If you are a crafter and have appropriate items to sell, or if you know of a crafter who would have items suitable for our plant sale, please call Victor at the office and leave a message.

More details to follow in our winter newsletter.

Office phone: 885-5210 or e-mail to:

"woc@aloha.net"



**"Thinking of Gifts?"**

Plant a tree! The Waimea Outdoor Circle can provide appropriate gift certificates for many occasions – a special anniversary, a new baby, or as a memorial. Your donation will go into our tree fund. Please call and leave a message at our office:  
885-5210 Mahalo!

## “LET’S MAKE A DEAL”

– a special offer to WOC members!

One of the “Programs in the Park” sessions recently was presented by Tim Lloyd who taught us how to make a raised garden bed from pallets. Initially I was a bit skeptical, envisioning a number of strange “jerry-built” configurations that no self-respecting gardener would want in the garden. Once a critic, I am now a convert! The details of Tim’s design are a bit involved, so I will not go into the actual technique here, but readers may learn how to make the raised bed by reading the companion article. And now for the offer!

Because I am an inveterate do-it-yourselfer, I have the tools necessary. I also have a source for free pallets. I also have my trusty truck. I also want to raise money for the Waimea Nature Park Building Fund. So, I will build and deliver a “limited edition” raised garden bed to your site in return for a tax deductible donation of \$100 or more. All you need to do is supply the soil and necessary TLC! If interested please call Victor at 885-5210.

## HOW TO BUILD A RAISED GARDEN BED

In a recent “Program in the Park” presentation, Tim Lloyd taught us how to make a raised garden bed utilizing old pallets. The pallets we use are the 30 X 48 inch industry standard sized double-sided platforms used for transporting freight. These pallets are expendable and can be gotten from a number of sources. Ask for free pallets at KTA, Foodland or Ace Hardware.

The idea is to take these free pallets and make a raised garden bed. The advantages of a raised bed are: (1) Beds are two feet above the ground, removed from the critters in the soil that eat up your veggies. (2) Because the beds are elevated, one does not have to stoop or squat while tending to them. (Your back will like that idea.) (3) The soil in the bed is isolated from adjacent / perhaps infested soil. (4) Watering and fertilizing can be easily controlled. (5) A wind screen or shade covering can be easily attached – handy for Waimea! (6) Again, pallets are free – all it takes is some effort and a few tools.

Anatomy of a pallet: Usually a pallet is made up of a top layer of 1/2” or 3/4” boards with narrow spaces between them fastened to a frame of three parallel 2 X 4’s. The bottom layer of boards is made up of fewer boards with wide spaces between them. You will need two pallets. Choose the best pallets you can find: solid wood with straight slats and no missing boards. Avoid pallets that have spliced 2 X 4 frames. Do not use pallets that have 4 X 4 sections as the corner spacers!

Design of the bed: One pallet will be the bed itself. The other pallet will be cut in half and will be the supports. The finished bed will look like a table and be supported on both ends by the two pallet sections.

Tools needed: Hammer, tape measure, hand saw, 1 1/4” drywall screws, electric screwdriver, and a long pry bar or crow bar.

Top: Turn the best pallet upside down (the side with the fewer boards will now be on top). Remove the boards from the 2X4’s. This is the most difficult step. Pallets are assembled with nasty nails that are hard to pull out. I recommend a long metal bar or a long 2X4. Place the bar between two boards and pull down. Try to remove the boards intact – they will be used later. If the boards pull off the nails, pound the nails in with a hammer. If possible, fill in any large spaces (over 2 inches or so) on the good side with board scraps. This section will be the top of your bed when filled with soil – more about that later.

Supports: Cutting the second pallet in half is a bit tricky, but not difficult. Place the pallet on the ground and remove the center boards. Usually this is only necessary for one side. Take a tape measure and measure in 2 feet from each side – that should be the middle of the pallet. Draw a line on each of the 2X4’s. Important: check to see that there are no nails on or near your cutting line! Saw through the 2 X 4s. You will now have created the two end supports.

Assembly: You might need someone to help you with this step. The supports are fastened to the top by using four connector boards to join them – one in each corner. The four boards should come from the boards you removed earlier. These boards should be approximately three feet long. Measure down from the top of each board two feet and make a mark. The tops should all be two feet above the mark. The boards beneath the marks may be slightly different in length – no matter! Tip the top pallet so it is on its edge. Fasten a connector board to each end of the four foot side of the top by placing your mark on the top edge of the pallet. Fasten the boards to the top pallet with three screws. Roll the pallet over and do the same to the other side. While the pallet is still on its side, slide a support section in between the connector boards. Make sure the support section is perpendicular to the top. Fasten the supports to the connector boards with three screws. Do the same to the other side. Now stand the raised bed on its feet. You should have a stable structure with four corner connector boards rising two feet above the bed.

Final steps: In that the pallet top is only 3 inches deep, you will probably want to provide for greater soil depth. Do this by fastening additional boards (also from pallets) to the sides and end. Cut a board to the correct length, slip it in inside the connector posts and fasten with screws. Do the same for the ends. You will now have increased your soil depth potential to 6 – 7 inches.

Line the top pallet with soil cloth or plastic to keep the soil from seeping through the spaces between the boards.

Options: If plastic is used, the top section can be used for hydroponic gardening. If you wish to allow the soil to drain, use soil cloth or punch holes in the plastic.

Shade or wind protection can be provided by stapling shade cloth to the connector posts.

String can be stretched from post to post to provide support for tomatoes, beans, etc.

Your “help line” for the raised bed project is: Victor at 887-0500 or writestuff04@hawaii.rr.com. – *Good luck!*



## FIRST WEDDING AT ULU LA’AU

July 2, 2005 saw the very first wedding performed in Ulu La’au Nature Park. Volunteers Deb Pun and Ben Discoe were wed in an afternoon ceremony under our pop-up tent near the Garden Spaces bench. Another larger tent was set up on the meadow and a sit-down reception was held there immediately following the ceremony which was attended by approximately 50 guests. For more photos of this first-time event, go to [debpun.com](http://debpun.com) and click on “gallery”. Deb’s gown and Ben’s outfit were hand sewn by her mother, Cindy Liao, who is a couture seamstress in New York.

## WAIMEA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN COMMITTEE

The July meeting of the WCDPC featured Nino Walker, a graduate student at U.C. Berkeley majoring in Landscape Architecture who presented a power point presentation on urban planning. He showed three communities’ attempts at devising successful strategies for managing the economic impacts associated with a by-pass; one which was Haleiwa on Oahu. His thesis states that he wishes to gather data for “*An urban design study that examines how the form of Waimea could evolve in ways that are consistent with the values of the community and that improve the quality of life for residents.*”

To that end he asked us to fill out his four page survey. He is also preparing a list of community leaders, respected elders and various community groups, which he will interview to gather data. This information will be compiled and his results reported to our next meeting. He will then go back to Berkeley where he will write his thesis and return in the spring to distribute what he has discovered.

To get as much information to Nino as possible we are asking the community to log on to the WCDPC website and to participate in this survey. All information is confidential.

Log on to “[waimeaplan.org](http://waimeaplan.org)”, scroll down four lines to “click here to participate in Nino Walkers online survey”.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17 at 6 PM at the Waimea Community Center.

## WHERE’S THE WEIR?

On Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, the bi-monthly work party at the Nature Park had, as its primary project, the removal of an old weir that was blocking free flow of the Waikoloa Stream. Evidently an early farm owner in the area had created the weir to provide water for irrigation. The weir was a very solid structure made of concrete with pipe, fence posts and large boulders used as reinforcement. The upstream side of the weir was a tangle of junk, rubble and large tree limbs. A huge section of a eucalyptus tree, approximately twenty inches in diameter, had also washed down during the last flood and was jammed across the creek thereby creating a further impediment to natural stream flow.

The project presented a special challenge for a number of reasons: the weir was located in a spot that was difficult to access; in keeping with the tenets of good stream management, we did not want to disturb the creek bed itself or the banks of the stream and chances were good that we would be at least knee deep in water as we worked. Fortunately, the weather was great, it was not raining and the creek bed was dry!

After consultation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service folks here in Waimea, it was decided to remove this blob of concrete by hand! The good news is that we had many hands – there were twenty-three volunteers who showed up to help with our workday. The bad news was that the weir was approximately ten feet wide, four feet high and a respectable three feet thick! It is said that “many hands make work little”, but we were very fortunate to have a little special help from some good friends who donated a compressor and jack hammer for our use.

While one crew chain-sawed the log into manageable sections for removal, another crew set to work with jack hammer, sledge hammers, picks and shovels, o’o and a lot of elbow grease. The concrete was old and stubborn, but some of our members are also old and stubborn and with the help of many younger and stronger members of our group of volunteers, we prevailed without any accidents, injuries or strains. There was a modicum of cursing, but that was aimed at stubborn parts of the weir and not at one another.

After finishing, the weary weir workers wended their way to the picnic area where we joined with other volunteers who has been mowing, weed-whacking, weeding, and planting new areas of the park for our traditional light pupus and camara-derie.

The project was well orchestrated, a good number of volunteers showed up to help, our goal was achieved and to make things even better, the Waimea weather cooperated - all in all a very satisfying day. On the following Saturday, the creek was flowing and doing so in a beautiful manner – gurgling and swirling its way through the park before heading down to the ocean.

If the reader has not visited the park lately, it is highly recommended to do so – bring your lunch, bring your children, bring your dog. The Waimea Nature Park is a user friendly, tranquil spot where it’s easy to relax and forget one’s concerns, at least for a little while.