

Friends of Maui Botanical Gardens  
Conservation, Education, Propagation  
Newsletter - February 1985

\* \* Officers \* \*

President - Charlie Lindsey - 878-1701  
Vice-President - Mary Evanson - 572-972  
Secretary - Linda Nelson - 661-4303  
Treasurer - Leslie Hiraga - 669-0703

\* \* Aloha and Happy New Year \* \*

We welcome you to come and join us in another exciting year. Last year brought us a lot of joy, happiness, and good feeling of accomplishment. Just a few of the projects that came to life and flourished are as follows:

1. Acquisition of our 62 acre land lease for rare, endemic, and endangered Hawaiian plants.
2. Receiving our Federal Tax Exemption for non-profit status.
3. Obtaining insurance for members and invited guests on all of our outings.
4. Successful plant and t-shirt sales.
5. Mission accomplishment on the island of Lanai "Save Hawaiian Plants". A seven-foot-high fence enclosure was erected to protect a new species of *Hibiscadelphus "crucibracteatus" Hobdy*.

This year we hope to continue to accomplish many things. Much work needs to be done at our plant reserve, such as, clearing, hauling of debris, planting and installing an irrigation system. We continue to work there the first Sunday of each month. We hope to do other "Save Hawaiian Plant" missions, such as enclosing the *Hibiscus Brackenridgei* at Waikapu and other plants on Maui.

At this time, I would like to thank the many members and friends who have supported us on last year's projects in numerous ways. I would appreciate your continued support through 1985.

-Charlie Lindsey-

"The Wildlife of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands"

The first evening meeting of the Friends will be held at 7pm on Friday, February 15, in the science lecture hall at Maui Community College. Shiela Conant, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of General Science at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, will speak on "The Wildlife of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands". She has been working in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands or Leeward Islands since 1980, studying three of the four endangered bird species found only there. Though her work has focused on the ecological requirements of these bird species, she has also conducted surveys of rare plants and discovered several species of insects new to science. Conant was born and raised in Honolulu and has two brothers living on Maui, Mike, an instructor at MCC and Pat, an entomologist for the Department of Agriculture.

\* \* Help Needed \* \*

PA MEAKANU KAPU (the sacred enclosure of plants)

We are still very actively involved in our J. L. Gressitt Rare Plant Sanctuary, created to save endangered plants from extinction. Mark it on your calendar, the first Sunday of each month: March 3, April 7, May 5, June 6. We also go up on other non-scheduled Saturdays and Sundays. If you can help call Rene, 579-9616, before 8pm.

Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races, one after another.

-Rene Sylva-

\* \* What good are Native Hawaiian Plants Anyway \* \*

Wayne Gagne' gave a lively and informative slide lecture to the Friends in November that reaffirmed our goals to Save Hawaiian Plants. He spoke of how we can understand more of our geological past and the culture of the early Hawaiian people through native plants. He pointed out the importance of using native plants in our landscaping in order to better enjoy them and to save them. Our unique flora is of interest to the tourists who expect to see something different. He then pointed to the very important aspect of saving our native ecosystems as the very best water retaining system for Hawaii.

Wayne also touched on the 'ohia and koa wood chipping on the Big Island and asked people to support the Friends of the Forest c/o 209 Kinoole St., Rm. 8, Hilo, HI. Telephone: 961-2707.

-Mary Evanson-

\* \* Monthly Meeting \* \*

Members meet at the Maui Botanical Garden the first Thursday of each month at 12:00 noon. Bring your lunch and join our discussion. We need your input!

\* \* Dues \* \*

Reminder - Yearly membership fees are due as of January. If you haven't renewed your membership, please do so! It's still only \$5.

\* \* Botany in Hawaii \* \*

A potluck dinner and meeting was held at Rene Sylva's house on December 29th. Featured speaker was Dr. Harold St. John, author of "List and Summary of the Flowering Plants in the Hawaiian Islands", the definitive work on Hawaiian flora. He spoke on Early Botanical Exploration of the Hawaiian Islands, regaling the group of twenty-five with the ups and downs of early plant collecting from the days of Captian Cook onward. The lecture was videotaped for the Friends' archives.