



KPAA Newsletter - Volume 36 - December 2010

Aloha,



Reflections on 2010

In recent weeks I've heard a number of people say how glad they are this year is almost over. They are ready for a new year, with hopes for a stronger economy and more people back at work. While both of those things are important to me as well, when I think back to this year I also think of the new collaborations and partnerships that were established, perhaps spawned by adversity but flourishing because a vision of a better Kauai spurs them to action. We see school, community and backyard gardens, more people taking the bus and leaving the car at home, people swapping energy conservation tips, more photovoltaic on roofs and new training at KCC for green jobs. The brand *Kauai Grown* was created, new farmer's markets opened and more people recognized the importance of buying local products. The County Council passed a Complete Streets resolution to make streets more accessible for pedestrians and cyclists and an ordinance banning plastic bags at checkout to minimize roadside litter and their impact on the landfill. Around the island I see people taking charge of their future. As a Samoan friend of mine says, "You can't change the direction of the wind, you can only adjust the sail." For the New Year, how have you set your sail? - *Diane Zachary, President & CEO*



Kalalau Trail Project Complete



The trail along the first two miles of the Napali coast is now in better condition than it has been for years, thanks to 14 months of trail rehabilitation work. The photos before (left) and after (right) show some of the significant improvements. This came about because the

2007 legislature approved a grant-in-aid to KPAA through the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources to reconstruct major portions of the trail from Kee Beach to Hanakapiai Beach. KPAA selected the team of Pono Pacific Ecosystem Restoration Services and Native Hawaiian Conservation and Hiking Expeditions (“NHCHE”) to manage and perform the trail rehabilitation.

As a trail specialist in the field of conservation, team leader Charlie Cobb-Adams and his crew used techniques designed for severely eroded trail systems. All the trail building was approached from an environmentally-friendly perspective. Each trail feature worked on was to increase public safety. All the improvements were intended to have a rustic appearance as appropriate in this special wilderness park. Forty-four (44) volunteers, working with the Friends of Kalalau Trail under the supervision of Cobb-Adams, have put in about a thousand hours learning how to maintain and steward trails. Future trail stewardship efforts are in the planning stage, and information on upcoming volunteer opportunities is available from KPAA’s Project Manager Thomas Noyes by calling him at (808) 639-1018 or e-mailing tnoyes@kauainetwork.org.



Grant Received for Nonprofit Training

KPAA recently received a grant from the Atherton Foundation through Hawaii Community Foundation to offer capacity building workshops for Kauai’s nonprofits. In 2011, we’ll be offering training for staff and board members on topics nonprofits have identified as important to their operations. Watch for more information in future newsletters.



Don’t Forget Your Shopping Bag!

The County of Kauai has adopted Plastic Bag Reduction Ordinance No. 885 to go into effect January 11, 2011 to reduce the significant impacts of plastic checkout bags on the environment. The law requires establishments to provide only recyclable paper bags and reusable or biodegradable bags to customers, and all bags distributed must comply with the law’s definition of these bag types.

The law encourages customers to bring their own reusable bags while shopping. Retailers can offer checkout bags for sale to those customers who do not bring their own bags. For more information, call Allison Fraley at the County Solid Waste Division at 241-4837, or visit the County website at: www.kauai.gov/bagordinance.

Contribute Now to KPAA's Annual Campaign

A **BIG MAHALO** to those of you who have already contributed to KPAA's 2010 annual campaign. Through your generosity, we'll continue to bring people together to collaborate on issues important to our island. Some of our projects for 2011 include the publication of the third edition of the community indicators report, *Measuring What Matters for Kauai*, completing reconstruction of buildings in the CCC camp in Kokee with our partner Hui O Laka, seeking safe overnight parking for the homeless who live in their vehicles, and identifying solutions to enhance the island's sustainability. More than ever, we rely on support from the community to supplement grants and contracts. There's still time to take advantage of the 2010 tax benefits through your contribution to KPAA, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.



Mahalo to KPAA's New and Renewing Members

KPAA welcomes the following General and Supporting Members who have joined or renewed their membership since October 4, 2010. We appreciate their continued partnership in our mission and goals!

Renewing General Members

Kauai Community College
Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center
Royal Order of Kamehameha I
Saiva Siddhanta Church (*Patron Level*)
Wilcox Health Systems/Hawaii Pacific Health

Renewing Supporting Member

Kauai Nursery and Landscaping, Inc.

New Supporting Member

Green Energy Hawai'i, LLC

Happy Holidays from KPAA!

You are receiving this newsletter because of your past participation in Kauai Planning & Action Alliance committees, workshops or events or because you have asked to be included as a subscriber. We use newsletters and occasional emails to share information with you about KPAA activities, upcoming events and other important community issues we think you'll find of interest. To stop receiving all emails and newsletters from KPAA, just click on the Unsubscribe button below.

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