

President's Message

Aloha everyone, this is my final message to you as president. I have served as your president for eight and a half years. (A lot of you may remember our elections used to occur in March, and I was first elected in March 2001.) I first became involved with the zoo in 1992 after we moved to Hilo from Honolulu. Sukey Byrne trained me as a docent, and as they say, the rest is history!

I appreciate so much the tremendous support and encouragement I have received over the years from my fellow board members, all of you members, the zoo staff and volunteers, the county, the community, schools, and businesses. With all of your help the zoo --- and gardens! --- have grown and thrived and become an important destination for families, school groups from around the state and the mainland, as well as visitors to the island from all over the world!

The Friends of the Pana`ewa Zoo was first incorporated in April, 1981 and so is almost as old as the zoo itself. Our goals have always been education, enrichment for the animals, foster concern and support for conservation of endangered animals and their environments, and help with new animals and exhibits. To this end our volunteers have trained docents to lead school tours and staff our Information Booth, developed a very popular Saturday Petting Zoo, established enrichment activities for the petting zoo animals, planned and provided annual events such as Namaste's birthday party and our annual Plant Exposition for the community's enjoyment, AND operated a great little gift shop which offers up a lot of hospitality as well as souvenirs and educational gifts.

Exciting changes are taking place on the board! We have some new and not-so-new members stepping up to new roles. Karla Cook has agreed to serve as president. As chairman of Namaste's birthday party for the last three years she clearly has the commitment and organizational skills to be an excellent president. Thank you, Karla! Dawn Hawkins chaired a very successful Family Fun Day on July 25. She is also our new Webmaster and has done a wonderful job on it! Devin Magallanes is our new Newsletter editor beginning with this issue and is off to a great start. I want to acknowledge and heartily thank Lanaya Deily for being our editor for the last eight years! And a special Mahalo Nui Loa to Faith Elarionoff for stepping up and leading the organization in my absence this summer.

In closing, I am not really leaving --- my heart will always be at the zoo, and I will keep volunteering also and will be happy to be an advisor to the board. Come on out and join me in enjoying our beautiful zoo and gardens!

-- Jean A. Curtis

Creature Features

Namaste-



Namaste our white Bengal Tiger turns 11 this year. Come visit him September 26th for his annual Birthday Bash.

Jelly Bean and Jose-



Jelly Bean is our 3 year old Miniature Zebu. Jose is his Hanai Lhama Uncle. These two have been together since Jelly Bean was born and are still together to this day. They both enjoy Wednesday walks with the Environmental Enrichment Team and Saturday afternoons at Petting Zoo. During the rest of the week they can be seen in the back end of the zoo in a pasture that spans the length behind the geese enclosure to the end of the goat enclosure.

Friends of the Pana`ewa Zoo
P.O. Box 738
Kea`au, Hawai`i 96749



Pana`ewa Rainforest Zoo & Gardens

Sept. 12 Annual Election meeting

Sept. 26 Namaste's 11th Birthday Celebration Party

Dec. 12 Foz Christmas Party for Animals Volunteers and Staff

www.hilozoo.com



Kapono Our I'o (Hawaiian Hawk) at Petting Zoo

FOZ Officer and Board Nominations

FOZ Presidential nominee

Karla Cook-

has a BS/BA in Business Administration and worked in Aerospace for over 30 years. Her Manufacturing Engineer/Change Management background will provide good experience as she embarks as President of FOZ. Karla has been active in the petting zoo since the first week she arrived in Hawaii in 2002. She has been on the FOZ Board since 2003 and Petting Zoopervisor since 2005. Along with her husband, Ivan, and a large volunteer following, she has led the expansion and improvement of the petting zoo. She is active in Animal Enrichment and has Chaired Namaste's Birthday Party the last three years. "Camp Gramcookie", as the Cooks call their little farm, is summer camp for their grandchildren and home for their Dogs, a "mini-feral Cat Colony" and their rescue Donkeys and goats and lots of chickens.

FOZ CO Vice presidential Nominees

Barbara Thomason-

Barbara was in the ranching business in Oklahoma for most of her life. She and her husband Paul Taylor moved to Hilo in 2002. She has been part of the Animal Enrichment team for 6 years and on FOZ's board for 5 years.

Devin Magallanes-

Devin has worked with animals nearly his entire life. From Exotics to domestics at home and at work he has always been drawn to animals. He volunteered with FOZ when he moved to the Big Island In April of 2008 and since has served on the Board of directors and currently volunteers at Petting zoo, Animal Enrichment, and special events.

FOZ Co Secretary Nominees

Lisa Nelms-

Lisa has been a docent and member of FOZ since 2004 and on the Board as Secretary for two years. She has an extensive background of office management, software training, editing and administrative consulting. She participated in rodeos from childhood through college and has always loved horses. For the past 25+ years, all of her dogs have been (and are) Newfoundlands. She moved to Hilo in early 2001 with her husband Craig. They have traveled extensively around the world for business and pleasure, and are very happy to have their feet planted here in Hilo.

Barbra Green-

I graduated from Kailua High School on Oahu, after spending my early years in Micronesia. I earned degrees from the University of Hawaii Hilo and Manoa after many years as an adult student. I retired in 2004 after 23 years at UH Hilo, first in continuing education and then in student services. Since retirement I enjoy many activities such as tennis, paddling, yoga and of course my long walks. Volunteering at the zoo has been a highlight of my retirement and I look forward to making further contributions to this beautiful facility.

FOZ Treasurer Nominee

Gretchen Klungness-

Gretchen Klungness has served as Treasurer of the Friends of the Zoo since the Spring of 2000 and is willing to continue as Treasurer for at least one more year. She graduated with honors from the University of Washington with a Bachelor's Degree in English Literature, and has worked as a legal secretary/legal assistant in Washington, Oregon and Hawaii since 1971. She moved to the Big Island in July 1999, after her marriage to Mike Klungness. She has one son and daughter-in-law and two grandchildren in Oregon.

Nominations To FOZ Board Of Directors

Pat Engelhard-

Born and raised on Kauai but lived in Hilo for over 40 years. Went to public schools on Kauai and graduated from Punahou. Bachelors in Business Administration from UH Hilo. Major employment - Naniloa Hotel - many positions. Last one as General Manager. County of Hawaii-Department of Housing and Community Development
-In charge of Subsidized Housing Section.
- County of Hawaii-Two stints as Director of Parks and Recreation. Oversight over 10 Divisions and Sections, one of which was the Panaewa Rainforest Zoo and Gardens. Retired December 1, 2008
Other Board Memberships
1) Big Island Substance Abuse Council - President
2) Lyman House Museum - Member
3) Crime Stoppers
Sings in Haili Church Cantata Choir, Treasurer for Haili Tournament and Haili Volleyball Team.
Volunteer as one of Andy Lemur's caregivers.

Ronald W. Phillips-

Ronald W. Phillips, age:55, Honorably discharged disabled American Veteran, worked in Aerospace 15 years & Govt. Contract painting industry in Long Beach, Ca., Assisted Wyland in his Whale murals on Long Beach Arena. Member of FOZ 10 years. Past member of FOZ Board for 8 years, Coproducer of FOZ Annual Plant Sale for 9 years. Member of ARS, Hawaii Chapter of Vireya Society 10 years & instrumental in Vireya Gardens at Zoo (Kuhina's Daddy the past 9 years!!!!).

Carol Babineaux-

I moved to the Hawaii in 2006 after retiring from a career working in government, the private sector and as a small business owner. Over the years it has always been important to me to find ways to contribute to my local community and have volunteered and served as a board member for a number of organizations and as a 4-H leader. Being an animal and nature lover, I immediately fell in love with Pana'ewa Rainforest Zoo when I first visited it. I was also greatly impressed by the important role FOZ takes in supporting the zoo and this led to my completing the docent training this year and volunteering at the zoo. I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to serve on the board and help further the mission of FOZ in supporting this tremendous community resource.

Education & Information Report

Summer has arrived and with it comes longer days in which to explore and enjoy our wonderful island home. The docents and I have received so many positive comments this summer about our beloved zoo and gardens from visitors and locals alike. Comments like “this place is a hidden jewel, we are so glad we stopped by, and it’s free” and “this is the most beautiful zoo we have ever visited in all of our travels, we really enjoyed the up close view of the animals” was the resounding theme spoken as patrons exited this “Oasis in Paradise”. It was a treat watching lucky keiki gleefully showing off their prize feathers to their envious siblings and parents as our avian populace molted the old year’s feathering and began to dawn new and brighter plumage.

The first half of the year saw over 1500 students representing over 35 school and non-profit groups touring our zoo and gardens. Many thanks go out to all of our docents who took the time out of their busy schedules to help guide and educate our future leaders.

Summer has seen 5 very capable interns complete over 60 hours of service learning and mentoring activities with our zoo keeping staff. The Huiana Internship program sponsored by the Hawaii Island Workforce Investment Board, seeks to provide career development opportunities for high school junior and seniors while partnering with private and public entities to provide worksite job readiness skills. Here are a few highlights: **Kuilei Kramer** of Kamehameha High completed the greenhouse bench and irrigation system for the Kamehameha Butterfly display, experimented with Mamaki plant cuttings (which serve as food for the butterfly larvae), collected larvae in the field and successfully raised one to adulthood. **Liz Lough** of Laupahoehoe High along with **Amber Fontes** of Waiakea High revised and field tested the Zoo Scavenger Hunt activity at the extremely successful **Friends of the Zoo Family Fun Day**. **Scott Okabayashi** and **Chanel Chamberlin** of Waiakea High successfully propagated over 100 crownflower cuttings for our Monarch Butterfly house and put several weather proof layers of paint on Keoki-Ann’s (our not-so-baby binturong) permanent living quarters.

Students of Mr. **Michael Davis** from Keana La Hana made their third trip to our zoo & gardens during the latter part of the school year and piloted our GPS “Zoocaching” activity. The technology-based educational scavenger hunt which centers around the legend of Hi’iaka and the lizard god Pana’ewa took an hour and a half to complete and focused on our zoo & gardens endemic flora and fauna. Based on the post activity survey, students had taken with them a better appreciation for our endangered fauna & flora as well as the various canoe plants Hawaiians brought with them when they settled these islands. In addition, the GPS training provided a base for the students that are contemplating a career in Natural Resources as nearly all career listings today in that field require some degree of knowledge in GPS technology

It indeed has been a wonderful first half of the year and as our feathered ambassador Max looks brighter with each new feather he replaces, so do the prospects for our zoo and gardens as we all work together to polish this “Hidden Jewel” even more. ----

----Terry Moniz

WHAT YOU GET FOR THE MONEY

Besides receiving your newsletter, do you ever wonder what FOZ is doing with the money you have all so generously contributed with your memberships, donations, purchases at the FOZ gift shop and participation in events such as Family Fun Day and Namaste’s birthday party?

The Zoo is part of a greater complex called the Pana’ewa Rainforest Zoo and Gardens and Equestrian Center and as such, operates under the auspices of the County of Hawaii. Even in the best of economic times, it is difficult to receive budget for unusual or unexpected items. This is where FOZ comes in to assist!

Some of the assistance FOZ provides is paying for animal enrichment. Animal enrichment includes farrier services for our hoofed friends, veterinary and acupuncture for Andy, our lemur who is partially paralyzed, and much more. We also assist with keeping our beautiful rainforest gardens looking its best by paying for one part-time grounds keeper. FOZ has also purchased new enclosures, treats for the animals, etc as needed and requested. The list goes on ...

Most recently, FOZ paid for Moe, a 6 year old male Colobus monkey. Moe came to us from a private dealer in Florida and we do not know his history. We do know that Colobus monkeys are tree dwelling and native to Africa. They have a hand with four fingers and no thumb. This allows the Colobus a strong grasp on branches as it moves through the trees. The name “colobus” means “mutilated one” and refers to the missing thumb. They are shy and seem aloof. If you haven’t stopped by the zoo lately, come on down and introduce yourself to Moe!

FOZ has some very exciting upcoming projects that we’ll be telling you about soon. Mahalo again for your continued support FOZ; for being a true Friend of the Zoo!

——Patty Anger