

SEMI-SEASONAL

FRIENDS OF HALAWA – A GLANCE OF 2015



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Xeriscape Garden donated Ukiuki plants from our Halawa Nursery to the Honolulu Zoo's Children's Discovery Forest phase one. An awesome area for Keiki and their adult chaperones to walk through and learn about native plants as well as volunteer opportunities. The project supervisors are always on



the lookout for volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering you may call 808-933-9411 or email fhia@hawaiiiforest.org or LMDULING@hawaii.edu

27th Annual Halawa Xeriscape Garden Open House and Plant Sale



The Annual Halawa Xeriscape Garden's Open House and Unthirsty Plant Sale was well visited this year. We had over 14 plant vendors, 7 workshops, including two new ones, How to Create a Butterfly Garden by Joann Maeda (Master Gardener) and Edible Garden Revolution by Matthew Lynch (Permaculture Instructor). Visit our updated workshop schedule to find out when we will offer the full version of these new workshops:

<http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/files/2015-2016%20Workshop%20Schedule.pdf>

Aquaponics Featured in the News

To kick off the plant sale festivities FOHXLG member Raychel Watkins (left) owner of Happy Ponics Farm interviewed with Trini Kaopuiki from Living 808 (KHON-2 News) The interview discussed how Aquaponic Systems can help homeowners conserve water outdoors. To see the interview click here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6hOWbLksiw>





CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF HAWAII JOINS OUR PLANT SALE

This year, just in time for our plant sale a new alliance began with Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden, Board of Water Supply and the Cactus and Succulent Society of Hawaii. Moving forward they will be joining us with their award winning cacti and succulent display.

For more information about the Cactus and Succulent Society please visit <http://cssh.angelfire.com/>

Partnerships that Promote Outdoor Water Conservation

Scenic Hawaii

Each year the FOHXG supports The Scenic Hawaii's Betty Crocker Awards program, with a \$2,000 sponsorship towards their prestigious Xeriscape Landscape award. Winners are selected for their outstanding use of beautiful and creative Xeric Plants (drought tolerant/hardy) in their landscape at their personal residence, business and government/community agency.

Scenic Hawaii is committed to protecting and preserving Hawaii's natural beauty, cultural and historical resources. They do so by working together with state and local agencies, garden clubs, historical agencies, environmental and civic groups just to name a few. For more information please visit <http://scenichawaii.org/awards.html>

Annual Water Conservation Calendar Poster and Poetry Contest.

Each year the FOHXG supports the printing of the BWS outdoor water conservation calendar. While preparing their entry students must study for and translate their water conservation ideas into a drawing or poem! The end result provides a possible opportunity for their entry to be featured in the calendar. This process affects an enormous number of student's in our state.

FOHXG also sponsors a coupon within the calendar that offers a \$2.00 discount on our already low membership fees. **Calendars are free to the public and available at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden's Welcome Window through the month of January or while supplies last.** For more information about this great program or to view the most recent calendar, please click here:

Quick Click Keeps You Informed!

<http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/cssweb/display.cfm?sid=1430>

Stay up to date with the latest events at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden by visiting us on Face Book just clicking the following link - <https://www.facebook.com/BWSHXG/?fref=ts> (Remember to like us)

If you don't have a Face Book Account you can also find the latest information by visiting the Board of Water Supplies' web-site - <http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/cssweb/>

Workshop List - <http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/files/2015-2016%20Workshop%20Schedule.pdf>

Current Events - <http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/cssweb/display.cfm?sid=2066> (mini stories)

Friends of Halawa Membership information and forms -

<http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/cssweb/display.cfm?sid=1137>

Meet our Dedicated Garden Volunteers



In the garden: Brian who is a dedicated Father, Husband, employee of Waialae Country Club Golf Course and HXG volunteer brings with him a passion for drought tolerant irrigation and a desire to educate the community on the latest drought tolerant irrigation technology. His knowledge and skills help to uphold our vision of Halawa Xeriscape Garden becoming the hub of outdoor conservation information. We are lucky to have him and appreciate all that he does at HXG. Visit our KeikiScapes and Butterfly Garden to preview the latest, efficient irrigation, specifically designed for drought tolerant plants.



In the Nursery: Elsie, our HXG nursery chair, works tirelessly supervising the nursery on her passion and a love for drought tolerant plants. Elsie has been a volunteer at HXG for 25 years! She says, "Every week, as Monday comes around, I get excited and look forward to Wed. and meet the volunteers (7 hardworking ladies and 2 men) and our accommodating office staff. I really enjoy being a volunteer." She first fell in love with Cactus and Succulents back in 1977, when she and her husband attended a Cactus Show at the Neal Blaisdell Center. She said, "I was so amazed at the different forms of plants and flowers, that I never stopped loving them!" She then joined the local Cactus and Succulent Society and has since gone to many conventions, and remains a member of the Society even today! I would like to add the following about being a volunteer. We appreciate you very much LC.



In the office: Miki is the friendly face that greets each workshop participant at our welcome window! She gladly helps with your workshop fee, membership questions, and is the all-around "answer guru" she even steps in and helps with the projector and other activities during workshops. When she is not volunteering she works for the state of Hawaii as a Para-legal and is the care giver to her very adorable mom. Miki says, "My mom was the plant lover in our household, and I can still remember her bring home cuttings from all over and planting them in our yard." Although her mom has slowed down quite a bit, she still goes around the yard picking up leaves and weeds. Miki told us that her first visit to the Garden was at a plant sale many years ago, but it was a recent rain barrel workshop that reintroduced her to the garden. She says, "Since that workshop, the time spent with the staff and other volunteers has given me the perfect break from my regular job and other activities." She goes on to say, "I'm trying to pick up where my mom left off. Just being around plant people has rubbed off, and even though I have a long way to go, I am happy to say that my thumb's a little greener now". We often wonder how Miki finds time to come out to Halawa to help us! We appreciate Miki in so many ways!

Volunteers at Halawa Xeriscape Garden are the back-bone of what makes the garden's activities, education and beautification so successful! In 2015, volunteers contributed a total of 1,822 hours. At minimum wage that translates to a fantastic contribution of approximately \$14,120.00! Working in coordination with BWS field crews, volunteer dedication helps provide TLC to the many drought tolerant examples we have growing in the garden. Volunteerism is alive and well and a great support to the overall progress at Halawa Xeriscape Garden!

If you or anyone you know might be interested in volunteering at a fun, beautiful place please contact Diane Moses at 808-748-5363. Volunteer opportunities are offered on Wed. and Sat. between the hours of 9:00a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

New to BWS/FOHXG

Please Welcome Sheri Mikami, Community Relations Specialist for BWS Communications Office. She is at Halawa Garden each Wednesday and Saturday and conducts BWS tours and works out of the Honolulu Office the rest of the work week. She comes to us from Neal Blasdell Center, and brings with her a lot of organizational skills and media and marketing expertise. She will also be conducting 2 new workshops this year. Whimsical Reusable (eco-craft) planters on Jan. 9th and Xeric Critters (eco-craft) recycled and lovable planters scheduled for February 13th. As members you may register for workshops at any time during the year by emailing workshops@hbws.org or by calling 808-748-5320.



On the Rise – Exciting Workshops and Community Recognition!

Water Conservation outreach during 2015 was phenomenal! FOHXG co-sponsored 33 workshops which were attended by 885 FOHXG, community members and groups, we even had some participants flying in from the outer islands to participate in workshops!

HXG was also featured in several magazines and Newspapers during 2015. You may view the stories electronically by clicking on the links below.

The AAA Hawaii Magazine for AAA Members (Water Wise Gardening).

<http://www.hawaii.aaa.com/home/publications/aaa-hawaii/local-outings/2016-halawa-xeriscape-garden.html>

The Honolulu Star Advertiser (Hypertufa Pots in a Snap) <http://www.pressreader.com/usa/honolulu-star-advertiser/20160118/282321089009560/TextView>. The article on Terra Cotta Madness ran on March 9, 2015 and unfortunately is no longer available on the web but it was a great article on one of our more popular workshops!

Hawaii Home and Remodeling September 2015 issue.

Although this article was featured in 2013 it's now available digitally.

Hawaiian Airlines Hana Hou Magazine (Arid Beauty)

<http://hanahou.com/pages/Magazine.asp?Action=DrawArticle&ArticleID=1249&MagazineID=77>

Educational Features



Halawa Xeriscape Garden through Honolulu Board of Water Supply was recently featured on an episode of Waltah the Worm which is a program to educate our children and community about sustainability. Waltah and Kimo take a tour of the garden guided by Diane Moses. The show which is for all ages, not just keiki featured drought tolerant plants of Halawa Xeriscape Garden and the 7 principles of xeriscape as well as other outdoor water conservation tours such as the Waihee Water Tunnel and the Honouliuli Water Reclamation Center. View full episode of Waltah the Worm here: <http://shows.oc16.tv/waltah-the-worm/episode-2015-7/>

Free Seed Program

New to Halawa Garden is our ever popular **Seed of the Month** giveaway and sometimes a clipping of the plant! Each month a new plant is featured and Sheri Mikami will share that information on the first Wednesday of each month to our Halawa Face Book page, and BWS website (*see Quick Click on page 2) to get the information simply and quickly! If you don't have access to the internet you may call Diane at 808-748-5363 with any questions. The seeds or plant cuttings can be picked up on Wednesdays and Saturdays only, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., while supplies last.

The information on the plant sheet that accompanies your packet of seeds or plant cutting, has been carefully researched by our dedicated volunteer Marilyn Hamano. She has worked tirelessly on each plant description to be sure that you are equipped with the information necessary to be successful growing your new plant. She said the bonus to this assignment was she learned a lot by doing the research and didn't know that plants had so many interesting facts about them!

To see what you may have missed we have provided a list and photo of plants we have already featured. You may check <https://www.facebook.com/BWSHXG/?fref=ts> for more information about the individual plants and be sure to check out our future features which are always a secret until that first Wednesday each month!

September – Herb Packets



October – Butterfly Bush



November – Lignum Vitae



December – Pregnant Onion



January – Dragon Fruit



February – Bird of Paradise



March – Ilima



(FOHXG members are the first to know)

Be sure to use your **Simple Click** to stay informed about the seed of the month.

Dates to Remember

Movie Night at the Garden – The Martian (*By invitation only*)

(Volunteers only) 6:30 p.m.

March 12, 2016, **General Membership Meeting,**

(All Members) 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Halawa Xeriscape Pavilion

March 12, 2016, **Members Only mini-plant sale,** (Pre-selected plants only)

(GMM Participants) Meets in the Nursery directly after General Membership Meeting. (12:15-1:00pm)
• Member must attend General Membership Meeting to participate in plant sale).

March 12, 2016, **FOHXG Board of Directors Meeting**

(Board Members) Follows directly after the member's only mini-plant sale.

April 20, 2016, **Sustainable Living and Vermi Composting Lecture** with Ralph Rhoads

(All Members) 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. (Halawa Xeriscape Pavilion)

The Presidents Corner

Aloha Members,

We at FOHXG hope your holidays were filled with memories, and that the New Year is prosperous for everyone. We also hope that you are excited about the information you learned in our workshops last year. We'd love to hear how you took that knowledge home and put your new found skills to the test! If you have photos of your new endeavors, gardens, landscapes or other conservation techniques, such as recycled-repurposed items, please share them with our membership community. You may send your photo and story to friendsofhalawa@gmail.com, we may be able to feature your entry in our newsletters. If you don't use the computer you can call me at 808-748-5363 or mail your photo and story to Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden, P.O. Box 3089, Honolulu Hawaii, 96802



I'm sure by now you've noticed the new format of the newsletter, we will continue to improve upon it aesthetically, educationally, socially, and informatively. This new format allows us to provide live links that with just a click will take you to articles or sites with more information etc. If you don't have computer access you will receive the news letters through US Mail. Please let us know what you as members would like to see in your next newsletter? Perhaps you are interested in learning about a specific plant or an insect that is bothering your garden or an ongoing column that covers a specific topic. Or better yet, maybe you have an interest in writing stories or would like to maintain a column please allow me to sign you up! Please email friendsofhalawa@gmail.com with your recommendation or volunteer interest/availability.

I look forward to hearing from you and hope to see many of you at our General Membership Meeting Scheduled for March 12, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. Halawa Xeriscape Garden's Pavilion. We will have light snacks and beverages available to participants.

Sincerely,

Diane M. Moses

President of the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden