Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden (FOHXG) and Board of Water Supply (BWS) have sponsored more community workshops this year than ever before! We have even taken our Origami Paper Pot and Xeric Critter workshops to Community, Senior Centers and other community groups.

These educational workshops bring container gardening with drought tolerant plants into the community. We have to say we’re not sure who learns more at these events us or the participants! Our seniors have great sustainable ideas!

Also don’t forget as members of FOHXG, early bird registration is one of your more valuable benefits of being a member, so sign up early.

**28th Annual Halawa Xeriscape Garden Open House and Unthirsty Plant Sale**

Another well attended event, and the rain did not dampen the event at all, fun was in the air!

We featured over 12 plant vendors, 8 conservation and gardening workshops, 3 adult and keiki plant-craft activities and over 40 new plants were introduced to the Keikiscape Garden by visiting youngsters! We also had many government agencies offering community education, DLNR, DFM Storm Water, CTAHR – Master Gardeners, Hawaiian Electric, USDA – Invasive Species CWRM, just to name a few!

**SAVE THE DATE:** August 5, 2017 = the 29th Annual Halawa Xeriscape Plant Sale.
Annual Water Conservation Calendar Poster and Poetry Contest.

Each year the FOHXG supports the printing of this fabulous outdoor water conservation calendar that essentially reaches an enormous amount of student household’s in our state (private and public schools). FOHXG also sponsors a coupon within the calendar. This year FOHXG coupon offers a drought tolerant plant to any supporting level FOHXG membership. Calendars are free to the public and available at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden’s Welcome Window through the months of December and January or while supplies last. For more information about this great program or to view the most recent calendar online, please click here: http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/community/workshops

Meet our Dedicated Volunteers

This section recognizes volunteers individually. It’s a way for our membership community to meet the people behind the scenes at Halawa Xeriscape Garden. As the author, I ran into a dilemma with this issue of the Semi Seasonal. There are two garden volunteers, best friends, “two peas in a pod,” you might say, who both work equally hard at the garden bringing with them their individual uniqueness and skills. The garden thrives because of their efforts! They each deserve individual recognition and it was difficult to feature one without the other. With the holidays upon us and in the spirit of holiday giving; I selected Vangie Pangelinan as the honoree because of her involvement with the Volunteer Recognition Holiday Luncheon.

Garden Volunteer: Vangie Pangelinan, is the mastermind behind the crochet cactus revolution at Halawa Xeriscape Garden. Not only did she make the majority of crochet cactus which earned $295.00 as a FOHXG fundraiser at our annual plant sale, she also spearheaded the cactus favors for this year’s Volunteer Appreciation and Holiday Luncheon! Vangie, is very active at her church, serving others, and still finds time to help us at the garden! When not crocheting you can find her watering the plants and creating mini gardens. She also helps at workshops and with garden maintenance. Everything she touches glistens with TLC. We are happy to have her in our volunteer family. Next issue will feature the other half of this fantastic friendship duo, Luci Picerno.

In the Office: Harriet Wong, our spry 83 year old volunteer has been helping the FOHXG for about 4 years now. She is the “workhorse” behind the reminders you receive for membership renewals. She then process your applications, membership cards and welcomes your return to membership. She’s a great asset on plant sale day at the FOHXG Membership Booth. She also doubles as a seasonal workshop volunteer and is most known to keiki for her role as our “Prize Patrol Manager,” for the FOHXG/BWS Annual Decorate Eggs the Xeriscape Way and Garden Easter Egg Hunt. Keiki love coming to her when it’s time to redeem their found eggs for prizes!

This year’s workshop is on Saturday, April 8, 2017.

Partnerships that Promote Outdoor Water Conservation
Volunteers at Halawa Xeriscape Garden are the back-bone of what makes the garden’s activities, education and beautification so successful! **In 2016, volunteers contributed a total of 2,088 hours.** At minimum wage that translates to a fantastic workforce contribution of $17,434.00! 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 at HXG and a great support to the overall progress at Halawa Xeriscape Garden! There are no words to express our appreciation for all life and love these dedicated volunteers bring to Halawa Garden!

**Quick Click Keeps You Informed!**

Stay up to date with the latest events at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden by visiting us on Face Book just click the following link - [https://www.facebook.com/BWSHXG/?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/BWSHXG/?fref=ts) (Remember to like us while you are there)

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  Description of workshop content: [http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/community/workshops/workshop-schedule](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/community/workshops/workshop-schedule)


**On the Rise – Exciting Workshops and Community Recognition!**

Some new and exciting workshops to consider attending are the “Art in the Garden” series scheduled for February 17th “Sunflower Garden Art”, and March 22nd, “Art in the Garden (Mixed Media)”  It’s a Spin-off from the popular “Paint Night” or “Paint in the City” that’s swept the nation, except our event will serve fancy, colorful great tasting mock cocktails!  For more information click on the photo’s below.

If you’d like more information about all our workshops click here [http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/community/workshops](http://www.boardofwatersupply.com/community/workshops)

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 available on Wednesdays and Saturdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Water Conservation outreach during 2016 was phenomenal! FOHXG co-sponsored along with BWS, 37 workshops that were attended by 491 community members, FOHXG members, and community groups. We are happy to announce that in 2017 we have increased the availability of our workshops. We now offer workshops on Wednesday mornings and Friday evenings in addition to our usual Saturday schedule. **Don’t forget that as members you are able to register for all workshops in advance of public notification by calling Halawa Garden at 808-748-5315 or email workshops@hbws.org**
Aloha Members,

I hope your holidays were filled with memories, and that the New Year is prosperous for everyone. I also hope that you are excited about the information you received in our workshops last year, and once again, invite you to share how you put your newfound skills to the test in your own homes! If you have photos of your new endeavors, gardens, landscapes or other conservation techniques, like recycled-repurposed items, please share them with our membership community. You may send your photo and story to friendsofhalawa@gmail.com; we will feature your entry in our newsletters. If you don't use the computer you can call me at 808-748-5363 or Sheri at 748-5320 or mail your photo and story to Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden, P.O. Box 3089, Honolulu Hawaii, 96802.

I want to feature the following members and thank them for sharing their 2015-2016 workshop skills put to test! Their success encourages the rest of us to do the same! Happy 2017!

Luke and Cheryl Takayama made a whole family of “Xeric Critters after their workshop at Halawa Xeriscape

Luci and Vangie together created succulent dishes (right) used as party centerpieces and terracotta madness gardens for Christmas Gifts!

Val Yoshikane created a beautiful spiral garden at her home after attending our Spiral & Keyhole Garden workshops!

I look forward to hearing from members and hope to see many of you at our General Membership Meeting scheduled for February 4, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden’s Pavilion. (Invitation enclosed) We will have light snacks and beverages available to participants.

We appreciate your feedback, so, please come and let your voice and ideas be heard. If you have any questions please call Diane at 808-748-5363 or Sheri at 808-748-5320. We are happy to help you stay informed.

Sincerely,

Diane M. Moses
Diane M. Moses
President of the Friends of Halawa Xeriscape Garden