

HIGH SCHOOL HIKERS NEWS

Volume 23, Number 2

May 2011



What's Coming Next Year!

Fall Hikers Workshop
Moanalua HS
September 2011

Halloween Camp
Papahana Kualoa
October 22-23, 2011

Ecology Camp
Our Lady of Kea'au
February 18-20, 2012

End of Year Picnic
Hawai'i Nature Center
April 2012

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Mahalo Nui Loa to Geary Mizuno and Ed Lee

Over the past 40 years, the success of High School Hikers is due to the support from many people. They include the school advisers, hike leaders, resource specialists and kōkua. However, there are the "behind the scenes" people who also contribute to the success of the program and two of these individuals are **GEARY MIZUNO** and **ED LEE**. Each year, they make very generous scholarship donations to HSH that allows deserving students from each club to attend Ecology Camp for free. Students who have received the scholarships this year truly benefited from their generosity. Here are a few excerpts from the students' thank you letters to Geary and Ed.

Thank you so much for letting me attend Ecology Camp this year. I had a lot of fun and met many new people. The best part of camp was helping out the environment by cleaning up the beach at the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge. While cleaning the beach, we found many objects from boats and people that can hurt the birds and sea life. Another awesome thing we did that was important to the environment was planting native plants at the refuge. It was important because the native birds use areas around the native plants as a nesting area. I had so much fun at camp and hope to again next year.

Aysia Bassim
Leilehua High School



Photo by Chuck Stutz

Thank you for your contribution to a wonderful camp. I enjoyed the learning experience as well as the whole camp experience. As a club, we generally don't have the chance to do service project in closed, private areas so I really like how the project was a new experience for many of our members. For some, it was their first time doing a beach clean-up and planting native species. For me, it was the first time I saw so many endangered wetland birds. I got to be part of a large, enthusiastic group who shared the same goal as me – to help Hawai'i's environment. As a senior, I know many of next year's club members will have no previous experience with conservation so it's exciting to know that they'll be exposed to it in a fun learning environment.

Razzelle Rono, Roosevelt High School



It is difficult to find the words to describe how thankful I am for your sponsorship. People with your generosity are rare to find nowadays. I'd like to tell you how much I appreciate your kindness and what you helped me to accomplish during camp. One of the things we did was a service project that will help the area become a successful bird sanctuary and home to native plants and animals. We cleaned the beach and filled huge crates with garbage. It amazed me as to how dirty a beach could get. We also pulled out lots of non-native weeds and planted tons of native plants. I'm glad I had the opportunity to go to camp and do my part for our island. It was a fulfilling experience.

Amanda Garcia, Moanalua High School



I thank you so much for allowing me to have the time of my life. Camping in the wilderness and enjoying Mother Nature's company at Camp Pūpūkea was fun and thrilling! The scholarships were very useful because I could enjoy camp to the fullest level of satisfaction. We paid our debt to nature with our service projects. It was tiring in the hot sun but even with the hard work, I still loved it! By the end of the work day, I felt I accomplished a lot and I have you two to thank for it. I give you my thanks and gratitude.

Kalai Keoho, Campbell High School



Photos by Chuck Stutz and Erron Yoshioka

Kimmy's Kaua`i Adventure

During spring break, Moanalua High School and Pearl City High School took a week long trip to the beautiful island of Kaua`i. After arriving at the airport and getting everything organized, we finally boarded the plane. I was so tired that I fell asleep on the plane. The next thing I knew we had already landed. It looked like we were still in O`ahu!

When we arrived at the YMCA Camp in Naue, I was amazed by the view. The mountains were so bright green, and the sound of the ocean made it all the better. That same day we went to go check out the dry cave and wet caves. We also took a small hike into the Ka Ulu O Laka Heiau next to the beach. The view of the ocean was crazy! We even got to take a dip at Kē`ē Beach.

On the second day, we did our service project at Limahuli National Botanical Gardens. We first planted *pili* grass into the side of a hill and later formed an assembly line to clear out tree branches and tree trunks. Boy, it was hard work! After all that hard work, we went down to the Hanalei pier for a short swim. It was very refreshing. We ate a great dinner thanks to Mr.T (Nylen Takahashi) and Mr.Yosh (Erron Yoshioka) and ended the night with warm s'mores and a campfire on the beach.

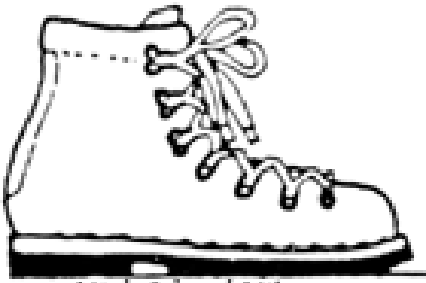
The next day was our shopping and sight seeing day. We first stopped at Kaua`i Kookies, then a place in Hanapēpē where a man sold taro chips that were very *ono*. And then we took a LONG crazy drive up to Waimea Canyon. We stopped at some lookouts along the way, ate lunch and hung out at the Kōke`e Museum. We made our way back down to the Menehune Ditch and walked across the "swinging bridge" just for the experience. The drive home was so long and tiring, and I wasn't even the one driving!



On the fourth day, we went to the Kīlauea National Wildlife Refuge. The wind was really strong and there were birds flying everywhere. The view was so nice and seeing the hill with all the birds was cool. After learning more about the birds that live at the refuge, we left for our next service project on the Kaua`i Bike Path. We carried medium sized rocks to help make a future trail for the bikers. Once we were done with the trail, it looked great! We got to go to Coconut Coasters bike rentals and all hopped on our own beach cruisers. The bike ride was so fun! I remember Makana saying, "I haven't had this much fun in a long time!" Along the path was a great view of the ocean and the breeze was breath taking.

Our last night ended with a good campfire. The next day was cleaning and packing day. Everyone was sad to say goodbye to our new home on Kaua`i. I just want to say thank you to everyone who made this trip possible. All of you were awesome! Thank you for putting up with us crazy students. Every night we had a DELICIOUS dinner, a feast to be exact, all thanks to Mr. T and Mr. Yosh. As a graduating senior in high school, I will probably never have an experience like Moanalua High School Science Club/High School Hikers ever again. This was a great way to end my last year. I know I will NEVER forget the trip I took to Kaua`i and the people who helped make these great memories possible.

Written by **Kimberly O'Neal**



High School Hikers
Sierra Club Hawaii

Active High School Hikers Clubs and Advisors

Leilehua High School
Jeannette Keane, Bob Keane

Moanalua High School
Erron Yoshioka, Mark Lee
Frank Raymond, Sandra Nakagawa-Saito
Darryl Nishimoto, Nysten Takahashi

Pearl City High School
Chuck Stutz, Tammy Yoon, Ed Duggan

Roosevelt High School
Joan Matsuzaki, Tomonori Hayamichi,
Jason Akamine, Jordan Yamasaki

Waldorf School
Nigel Lumsden
John and Adaline Cummings

Campbell High School
Stephen Schiller

Kamehameha Schools
Lorinda Forester, Donna Tully

Our Mission

HSH provides support for hiking activities in various high schools in the State of Hawai'i. HSH/Sierra Club approved hike leaders work in cooperation with an advisor of a high school to provide leadership knowledgeable in hiking skills and environmental subjects.

Say Cheese! PCHS and MoHS Kaua`i Trip Group Photo!



Kaua`i photos by Erron Yoshioka