

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

["Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right."](#)

(Quote By: Oprah Winfrey)

As we welcome in the new year, I want to thank all of the members of the Friends of the Pana'ewa Zoo membership for their generosity, interest and commitment to the Pana'ewa Rainforest Zoo and Gardens. You have many choices and FOZ is honored that you have chosen to support this organization in its mission.

Our primary mission is to promote the zoo to the community and to contribute to the well-being of the resident animals. Our goals include education, enrichment for the animals, fostering concern and support for conservation of endangered animals and their environment, and to help the county zoo with new animals and exhibits. The Friends of the Zoo, first incorporated in 1981, is a (501-C3) not for profit organization registered with the state of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. It is our honor and privilege to continue this 30 year legacy of service. We are grateful for the part you play in this effort. Mahalo to each and every one of you for being members of our team.

2010 has been a wonderful year for FOZ and the Zoo. A few of our highlights include: February we gave out (4) Science Fair awards; March was the month that we held our first Volunteer Appreciation Day honoring Jean Curtis, Past President of FOZ; in May, the annual plant sale; in September, Namaste's 12th Birthday was a roaring success, we awarded (2) Scholarships to two of Hawaii's outstanding graduating Seniors at our annual meeting, and in December we hosted a Christmas party for all the animals, volunteers and staff and of course, the public was included as well. And to finish off the year, the FOZ purchased pair of Marmosets arrived and are settling nicely into their new home. Please be sure to stop by and see them when you get a chance.

The Pana'ewa Rainforest Zoo and Gardens is absolutely beautiful and continues to demonstrate why it is referred to as the "Crown Jewel of Hawaii". Thanks to the ongoing work of the zoo volunteers, zoo staff, under the leadership and direction of Pam Mizuno and the volunteers from the Bamboo Society, Palm Society, Orchid Society, Vireya Society and the Water Garden Club, the zoo remains an amazing display of flora and fauna. What a glorious place to walk, visit with the animals and see some of the best plant specimens on the island. Mahalo to all of our friends, volunteers, donors and community groups that continue to support and work to improve both the zoo and it's botanical collection.

Please visit the zoo often and consider a visit to the FOZ Gift Shop while you are at the zoo. The Gift Shop continues to offer unique gifts not found in retail stores on the island. Please extend a thank you to the ladies of the Gift Shop while you are visiting the zoo; they work 363 days a year acting as liaison and guides to all things zoo. Thank you Pat, Lani and Patsy for all that you do on behalf of FOZ. And, please keep in mind that all the profits from the Gift Shop, just like your donations, are used to support the FOZ mission.

I would be remiss if I failed to acknowledge my amazing fellow board members for their tireless efforts on behalf of FOZ and the zoo. Without them, we would not be able to achieve our goals. Mahalo to all of you.

I would like to remind you to save your HI-5 Recyclables; you are able to designate Friends of the Zoo as the recipient of the HI-5 redemption. FOZ is participating at The Arc of Hilo, Mr. K's Recycle and Atlas Recycling Centers.

Please be sure and log onto our website: www.hilozoo.com . You will notice many changes and a wonderful new look. You are now able to see what is happening at the zoo, enjoy pictures from past events, join the Friends of the Zoo organization, adopt an animal, volunteer and or donate money to FOZ; Benches and Dedication Tiles may be ordered on the website as well. Thanks to Dawn and James Hawkins, our website masters and specialists, we have a link to the community that represents the Zoo, FOZ and our mission. Please take a look and let us know what you think.

I would love to hear your thoughts and suggestions; please feel free to contact me at kgcasunshine@aol.com with your thoughts and ideas for FOZ. I remain humbled and honored to serve as your president.

**“Another fresh new year is here . . .
Another year to live!
To banish worry, doubt, and fear,
To love and laugh and give!**

**This bright new year is given me
To live each day with zest . . .
To daily grow and try to be
My highest and my best!”
Verse By: William Arthur Ward**

-Karla Cook, President, Friends of the Pana'ewa Zoo

MEMBERSHIP

In an effort to improve and streamline our processes, Friends of the Zoo will be working toward an annual membership renewal date for all members. In the next few months, we will be looking at the best way to accomplish this. We sincerely thank you for your continued support of Friends of the Pana'ewa Zoo. We look forward to a great 2011.

As a reminder, you can renew your membership, adopt an animal, donate, volunteer, read the newsletters and so much more by visiting FOZ on the web at www.hilozoo.com.

--Judy Bevington & Patty Anger, Membership

2011 FOZ OFFICERS AND BOARD

Karla Cook, President
Barbara Thomason and Patty Anger, Vice-President
Gretchen Klungness, Treasurer
Carol Babineaux Secretary

Nina Beamer, Dan Beers, Judy Bevington, Pat Engelhard, Barbra Green, Dawn Hawkins, Renee Kama, Pat Larsen, Marlene Mederios, Lisa Nelms, Ron Phillips,

WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE ZOO

Fall is gone and winter is here, but there are still so many beautiful flowers and plants to see and animals to visit at the zoo! That's because we are lucky enough to be here in this wonderful paradise known as "Hawai'i".

Our resident Binturong (Bearcat) couple, Lucille and Ricky Ricardo, is back together for the winter months as we hope to welcome some new baby Bints next spring. Last years' siblings are in their new homes on the mainland. The female now lives at Zoo Boise with her new boyfriend and the keepers there have named her "Rain". The male resides at Minnesota Zoo with his new girlfriend. They are both are happily hunkered down in their winter digs with their newly found friends.



Binturong "Rain"
at Zoo Boise

The day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 26, 2010, our pair of Two-Toed Sloths blessed us with the birth of their new baby. Here is a photo of mom and baby Sloth taken at almost 3 weeks of age.



Mother two-toed sloth and baby.



Black Pencil Marmoset pair.

FOZ funded new acquisition of a Black-penciled Marmoset pair flew in from Florida on Tuesday, December 28, 2010. They are bouncing around, exploring and doing very well in their new home next to the Kinkajous. Spend some time watching them play and socialize on your next visit to the zoo.

Waiakea Lions were once again prowling at the zoo for a “roof raising” event to help complete the cage for the new Coatimundi exhibit. In June, they started the project by constructing the concrete slab foundation. In mid November, they came back to top off the exhibit with a new green sheet metal roof.

Lion Chairman Jimmy Miyake continued his long standing tradition of hustling help from his fellow Lions to improve our community zoo. With much pride, club members put in a total of 88 man hours to raise the roof that will protect our Coatimundi couple during inclement weather.

With new doors being installed, painting being completed, and gravel and grass carpeting scheduled for installation in the coming weeks, these raccoon-like critters are planning to move into their new housing sometime in January and will have the hard working Lions to thank for their home!



Waiakea Lions working on Coatimundi exhibit.

The zoo will be adding a different sort of attraction in 2011. Sometime in March 2011, ground work will be initiated for a playground installation in the open area between the pavilion, petting zoo, and entry road fence. The new playground will include multiple slides, rock climbing structures, hanging bars, shade towers and rubberized safety surface to encourage healthy exercise and kid's "monkey" play. Much of the work is being donated by Takamine Construction and is tentatively scheduled to take up most weekends beginning March 2011, at which time pavilion use and petting zoo will be temporarily suspended.



Photos courtesy of Pam Mizuno.

Spring Docent Training is tentatively scheduled to start on Tuesday, March 1, 2011, for 6 weekly sessions. If anyone is interested in the upcoming class, please email me at panaewazoo@co.hawaii.hi.us and you will be contacted once more information is available.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the zoo in 2011!!! Aloha,

*--Pam Mizuno, Complex Mgr, Pana'ewa Rainforest Zoo & Gardens
and Pana'ewa Equestrian Center*

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION FOR OUR ZOO FRIENDS

December 4th was a lovely sunny morning at the Pana'ewa Zoo as the Animal Enrichment team members and zoo staffer Linda gathered together to present all of the special treats provided by the Friends of the Zoo for distribution to our furry and feathered friends.

The Spider and Capuchin monkeys watched in anticipation as some of the volunteers entered the Primadome to place special fruit, raw eggs, little boxes of raisins and gift wrapped boxes of nuts into the Spider Monkeys' daytime enclosure. When the doors were opened it was like witnessing five year old children grabbing presents from under a Christmas tree. The alpha male Bugaboo ran from present to present throwing them on the ground, which only *he* would open later, while all of the others grabbed as many pieces of fruit as they could carry before sitting to enjoy their breakfast.

All of us who watched their antics could have easily spent another half hour just watching them discover all of the gifts but we needed to move on to the Capuchins and the Columbus monkeys where Linda presented each enclosure with their pile of treats and toys. It was interesting to watch them choose what caught their interest first, food or toys. Each got a capped peanut butter jar with a smattering of left over peanut butter as well as fruit, green tea leaves and raw eggs. Kiba our male Capuchin grabbed a scrub brush to chew on before discovering his very favorite treat, raw egg while Moe our Columbus grabbed a slice of whole grain bread after sweeping the other treats off his stack of goodies.

We finally tore ourselves away from these joyous displays to treat our 'lo hawk, Turkey Vulture, Lemurs and Sloths to their special food treats. Linda took care of the 'lo, Turkey Vulture and Sloths while a couple of volunteers entered the Lemur enclosure to place some food treats toward the front so zoo guests could enjoy watching these wonderful guys discover whole bananas, eggs and raisin boxes in the grass.

Many other friends received the special gifts of their favorite foods but the biggest draw of visitors was to watch Namaste, our white Bengal Tiger receive a large cardboard box that all of us placed our hands on as an added treat. Inside the box was a large squash and a pumpkin which he discovered after spending a long time biting, pawing and rubbing his face on this box. He would bite into a squash and roll it in the grass but he kept going back to the cardboard box which held great fascination for him, even the catnip pillow was ignored in favor of this box. All in all the Animal Enrichment team, zoo staffer Linda, our zoo animals and all of the visitors to the Pana'ewa Zoo had a wonderful morning and I would like to personally thank our zoo director Pam Mizuno for the opportunity to help enrich the lives of all our zoo friends.

--Lisa Matlage, Docent and Zoo Volunteer



Enrichment Team and zoo staff, hiding treats.

Kinkajou with watermelon treat.



Watermelon treats for the turtles. Photos



Animal Christmas photos courtesy of Patty Anger



Casper taken at Christmas for the Animals, Dec. 2010. Photo courtesy of Lanaya Deily.

Dear Casper:

Thank you for unselfishly sharing yourself. Thank you for being willing to always reach out and make that connection.

From the first day we met, you were willing to extend your paw in friendship. Through the years you allowed, we the humans, countless moments of joy and wonder. You graciously accepted our treats. You sat on our shoulders, patted our heads and gave us little kisses, all the while purring with happiness and squeaking with enthusiasm. You refused to be just an animal in an exhibit - you taught us to admire and respect you as an individual - you had a NAME and a persona.

I will miss you my friend. I pray that lemur heaven is filled with ripe bananas, sweet grapes, soft grasses, balmy breezes, playful companionship, giant trees waiting to be explored and bright early morning sunbaths.

Love,
Faith

PLEASE WELCOME SALSA

Salsa is a 15 year old, male, Double Yellow Head Amazon parrot who was recently donated to the Pana'ewa Zoo by the Eric Johnsen family. Next time you're at the zoo, stop by and say hello to Salsa, who is currently in the enclosure that Max has occupied for some time. Max has a shiny new enclosure closer to the pond. (be sure to also say hello to Max too!)

Salsa has an extensive vocabulary and may even sing for you. A few of his favorites include "I Can See Clearly Now", "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and "Blue Skies Smiling at Me".



YEAR OF THE RABBIT

Chinese or Lunar New Year consists of both Gregorian and lunar-solar calendar systems. Because the track of the new moon changes from year to year, Chinese New Year can begin anytime between late January and mid-February. This year, Chinese New Year begins on February 3rd.

According to one source, during 2011, our life style will be languid and leisurely as we allow ourselves the luxuries we have always craved. A temperate year with unhurried pace. For once, it may seem possible for us to be carefree and happy without too many annoyances.

We suggest that you fulfill these predictions by visiting the Pana'ewa Zoo and Rainforest Gardens! We even have our own mascot rabbits, Shadow and Buckeroo Bonzai.



Shadow. Photos courtesy Patty Anger.



Buckeroo Bonzai, dwarf Rex, aka: Velveteen Rabbit.

Landscape Award Goes to Pana`ewa Zoo & Gardens

Often described by kama`aina and malahini alike as the “Hidden Jewel of the Big Island,” the Pana`ewa Rainforest Zoo & Gardens was recently revealed to the world when it was presented with an Award of Excellence in the Community Gardens category at this year’s Scenic Hawaii Betty Crocker Landscape Awards held at the Outrigger Canoe Club on Oahu.

The Award of Excellence is the highest honor a Community Garden can receive and our “gem” went up against nine other community gardens and prevailed. Nominating the Pana`ewa Zoo & Gardens was Friends of the Zoo volunteer Shirley Howard, often seen sharing the attributes of the zoo with visitors along with her favorite primate, Andy the Brown Lemur, in tow. When asked why she nominated Pana`ewa Zoo & Gardens she exclaimed, “I see the care, love and ownership that each and every senior groundskeeper and volunteer puts into our gardens every day.” She continued, “In my capacity as a zoo docent, Andy and I meet and greet many visitors every day and I hear so many positive comments about how beautiful the Pana`ewa Rainforest Zoo & Gardens is.” When asked to summarize the general feeling of the visitors upon the conclusion of their tour, Shirley stated, “They usually share what a joy it was to be surrounded by the serenity and beauty along the winding paths and how each turn revealed something unique.” Shirley then concluded, “Anyone who hasn’t been here in years needs to come back and see the transformation that has taken place!”

The Betty Crocker Landscape Awards are held annually to recognize and acknowledge some of the thousands of people who work every day to make Hawaii a more beautiful place. This recently revealed jewel right in Hilo’s back yard is a result of the efforts of the Friends of the Zoo, Hawaii Island Palm Society, Hawaii Chapter of the American Bamboo Society, the Big Island Water Garden Club, the Hawaii Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society, Senior Training and Employment Program staff, numerous school and community groups including Waiakea and Hilo High School, the Boy Scouts of America and students from the Huiana Internship Program.

Scenic Hawaii’s mission is to promote and carry out programs to protect Hawaii’s natural beauty, enhance landscapes and streetscapes as well as Hawaii’s historical and cultural resources. For more information on Scenic Hawaii log onto <http://www.scenichawaii.org>



Pana`ewa Rainforest Zoo & Gardens docent Shirley Howard and her favorite primate, Andy the Brown Lemur, proudly displays the Scenic Hawaii 2010 Betty Crocker Landscape Award. Howard nominated the site after receiving numerous accolades from visitors about the astounding beauty of the zoo’s gardens.

2010 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

This year, FOZ presented our annual Gordon Granger scholarships to Ashli Hirai and William Bible. Please join us in congratulating these young scholars!



FO BOD With William Bible and Ashli Hirai



Lisa Nelms, Gretchen Klungness and Chris Kornet with FOZ scholarship winners Ashli Hirai and William Bible.



Ice Cake. Photos courtesy Lanaya Deily.



The party's over! Photo courtesy Karla Cook.



Non-Profit Organization

The Friends of the Zoo, first incorporated in 1981, is a (501-C3) not for profit organization registered with the state of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. (Fed ID: 99-0248039). Our primary mission is to promote the zoo to the community and to contribute to the well-being of the resident animals. Our goals remain education, enrichment for the animals, to foster concern and support for conservation of endangered animals and their environment, and to help the county zoo with new animals and exhibits.

2011 Upcoming Events At the Zoo:

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|-----------------------|--|
| February 19-20 | Hawaii Horse Owners Association Stampede Rodeo at the Equestrian Center, President's Day weekend |
| March 12 | Jean Curtis – Volunteer Appreciation Day |
| April 30 | Earth Day at the Zoo: 10:30 am to 1:30 pm |
| July 9 | Family Fun Day and Playground Dedication |
| September 24 | Namaste's 13 th Birthday Party |
| December 3 | Christmas Party for the Animals, Volunteers and Staff |

MAHALO FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF FRIENDS OF THE PANA'EWA ZOO

