

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I want to thank all of the members of the Friends of the Pana'ewa Zoo membership for your commitment to the Pana'ewa Rainforest Zoo and Gardens. 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 plus 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 FOZ team.

The primary mission of FOZ is to promote the zoo in 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. This year, we have provided for the purchase of the Marmosets and the new Lemur Troop. We continue to upgrade the reptile house with new lighting fixtures; the copper sheeting around the Marmoset enclosure as well as the Lemur enclosure continues to "ward off" snails and to prevent illness spread by the snails. The Animal Enrichment Team continues to work tirelessly to provide toys, equipment, enrichment and exercise for our beloved zoo animals. A big mahalo to the team.

Again, this year, FOZ awarded (2) Namaste Awards at the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual East Hawai'i District Science and Engineering Fair. You can read more about the recipients in this newsletter. On March 12<sup>th</sup> FOZ held the Second Annual Volunteer Appreciation Day, continuing to honor Jean Curtis, Past President of FOZ. George Curtis and his Daughter, Ann Moore attended as we honored zoo volunteers.

A special thank you to Chris Kornet, Ivan Cook, Celina Ilikea Monge, Renee Kama, Beth Schwaetzngraber, and Terry the Tiger for representing The Friends of the Zoo at the Earth Day Event at UH on April 15<sup>th</sup>. There was a large number of Keiki, UH students and adults alike that took the time to visit our FOZ/Zoo Booth. Mahalo to the team for representing FOZ at this event and a special mahalo to Chris for leading this team again this year.

On May 1<sup>st</sup>, we will be hosted the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Friends of the Zoo Plant Sale and Exposition. The Pana'ewa Rainforest Zoo and Gardens is absolutely beautiful and continues to rein as the "Crown Jewel of Hawaii". Thanks to the ongoing work of the zoo volunteers, the zoo staff and Zoo leadership under the direction of Pam Mizuno, along with 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.

We suggest that you visit the zoo often, and while you are here, please consider a visit to the FOZ Gift Shop. The Gift Shop continues to offer unique gifts not found in retail stores on the island. Please offer 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 like to extend a thank you to 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 for your hand work and dedication. Attention all FOZ Members: September 10<sup>th</sup> is the annual FOZ Membership meeting at the zoo. Please join us as we elect our 2011-2012 Officers and Board of Directors. We appreciate your show of support.

Namaste's 13<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> this year. Please let me know if you would like to help with the event. And, of course, "YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE BIGGEST BIRTHDAY PARTY IN HILO", so please save the date and plan to attend Namaste's birthday party.

A reminder to save your HI-5 Recyclables: you are able to designate Friends of the Zoo as the recipient of the HI-5 redemption at the following recycling centers: The Arc of Hilo, Mr. K's Recycle and Atlas Recycling Centers will all take your recyclables and send your donation to FOZ. This is an opportunity for you to "go green" and help the Friends of the Zoo at the same time. Please recycle.

Please log onto our website: [www.hilozoo.com](http://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. Information/requirements and applications for the Scholarship program as well as information on the Plant Sale is available on the website. 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 comments and suggestions; please feel free to contact me at [kgcasunshine@aol.com](mailto:kgcasunshine@aol.com) with your thoughts and ideas for FOZ.

I remain humbled and honored to serve as your president.

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

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

The Friends of the Zoo (FOZ) Board of Directors is looking for new board members and/or people who are members who like to help with FOZ projects. These projects could include tasks as simple as working at the hot dog concession or being at a specific site during an event such as Namaste's Birthday Celebration; or as complex as chairing an event. If you are interested in becoming a more active FOZ member, we can certainly accommodate your interest. Please contact any of the FOZ members listed below to let us know how we can best use your talents.

Barbara Thomason – [thom2@yahoo.com](mailto:thom2@yahoo.com)

Patty Anger – [pattyscats@aol.com](mailto:pattyscats@aol.com)

Pat Engelhard – [engelharp001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:engelharp001@hawaii.rr.com)

## COMPLEX MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Spring is here with Summer on the way and everything's coming up roses (or in our case vireyas) at our zoo & gardens! We were fortunate enough to have a rare *Amorphophallus titanum* (Corpse plant) in bloom and on loan to the zoo for public display. At over 7 ft tall, the big stinky flower affectionately nicknamed "Morphy" by our Zookeeper Patti Carney, attracted a huge crowd on Easter Sunday. The visitor count was over 1,300, and that didn't include the thousands of flies that flocked to the odor. We were almost as busy the Monday after with over 1,200 visitors. Over the two day blooming event, many that came to see the Corpse flower were long time Hawaii residents that had never been to Pana'ewa Rainforest Zoo & Gardens before.....judging from the positive comments I'm sure they will be back for another visit soon.



**Amorphophallus titanum**  
AKA  
Titan arum  
AKA  
Corpse plant (flower)

Our lovely Ring Necked Parakeet couple (Mr. Green & Ms. Blue) has successfully hatched out their first offspring. They have been diligent in their duties to feed and care for

their new hatchling and we hope to see the baby out of the nest box soon. Here's a sneak peek.....junior is looking a lot like dad?



The addition of five new Sacred Ibis to our single lone female and a dozen Radjah Shelducks from Kona Village has filled the exhibit areas across from the Giant Anteaters and Axis Deer. Other exciting news.....The four new Ring-tailed Lemurs purchased by FOZ for the zoo will be arriving before the end of May. If you haven't been to the zoo lately, please come by and visit all of these new zoo residents!

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



New members of the zoo kingdom, Sacred Ibis.



Radjah Shelducks, with Jill the black swan

## FOZ CELEBRATES EARTH DAY AT UHH

Friends of the Zoo once again proved to have one of the one of the most popular booths at this fun-filled annual event held on Friday, April 15, 2011. Mobbed by young school groups competing for prizes in written and oral contests on animal identification and habitats, FOZ volunteers managed to keep up their energy with the free bananas, popcorn and drinks offered to all.



Terry the Tiger and a Earth Day visitor

FOZ volunteers pictured, from left to right are: Ivan Cook; Celina Ilikea Monge; Renee Kama; Nathan Schwartzengraber with mother Beth; and an Earth Day volunteer. Special thanks to Chris Kornet for coordinating the booth.



## **2011 Namaste Awards: The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual East Hawai`i District Science and Engineering Fair**

George Curtis, on behalf of the Friends of the Zoo, presented \$50.00 awards to students, James Laukea and Travis Greenleaf on February 19, 2011.

According to Chris Kornet, this year's judge for the Namaste Awards, "There were two recipients of FOZ "Namaste" Awards this year: 1) James Laukea, a 6th grader from Keonepoko Elementary, a Junior Researcher who studied the apparent increase in coqui frog size since their arrival on the island, and 2) Travis Greenleaf, a seventh grader from Connections, a Junior Display competitor who presented information about spinner dolphins

There was some stiff competition from a girl who compared how high different breeds of chickens will jump to reach a tomato bait (so we know how high we have to build chicken fences), and then there was the slug study - on which kind of feed do they gain the most weight (lettuce, tomatoes, carrots, or cat food)? Hmmmm. All in all, it was..... Well, you really had to be there. I find judging these events to be the hardest part of my teaching job. Chris Kornet"

Congratulations to James and Travis and mahalo to Chris Kornet and George Curtis for their continued efforts on behalf of The Friends of the Zoo.

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

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Once again, FOZ would like to thank all of our members for their continued support. Mahalo to all our FOZ members who have signed up to receive the newsletter via email! If you have changed your email address OR have not already signed up and would like to start receiving your copy of the newsletter via email, please let us know by sending a note to [panaewazoo@aol.com](mailto:panaewazoo@aol.com).

Please consider getting your newsletter electronically. **We appreciate and thank you for your continued support of Friends of the Pana'ewa Zoo.**

--*Judy Bevington*, Director FOZ and Membership Chairperson

## KTA DONATION TO FOZ – EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Again for Earth Day 2011, Linda Peters, Recycling Coordinator for the County of Hawai'i Department of Environmental Management worked with KTA to setup a donation program at the check out register of KTA during the month of April.

**Mahalo KTA and to all of you who participated in this donation program; and a special Mahalo to Linda Peters!**

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

## DONATE THROUGH PAYPAL

The Friends of the Pana'ewa Zoo is now accepting donations on our website, <http://www.hilozoo.com/donations.php>, through PayPal, which is a safe and secure way to donate. If you click the PayPal on the Donations page, you will be taken to the PayPal site, where, once your transaction is completed, you will receive a detailed transaction receipt for your tax-deductible donation. You do not need to have a PayPal account to use the site to donate. Any amount is greatly appreciated, be it \$10, \$50, \$100 or more.

Additionally, you can obtain a Membership, purchase a dedication plaque or tile or adopt an animal. Through PayPal, we can take all major credit cards or directly from your bank account. Again, any donation amount is appreciated.

--*Dawn Hawkins*, Director, FOZ

### Friends of the Zoo Upcoming Events:

Annual General Membership Meeting & Elections, Saturday, September, 10, 2011, Zoo Education Pavilion, 11:30 am

Namaste's Birthday Party, Saturday, September 24, 2011, 9am - 4pm



# ***FRIENDS OF THE PANA'EWA ZOO***

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A Non-Profit Organization

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT **[WWW.HILOZOO.COM](http://WWW.HILOZOO.COM)**

Check out new signs at the zoo and more photographs on our web version of the newsletter, Select News then NEWSLETTER on our website!

## **2011 UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| September 10 | Annual Membership meeting and elections           |
| September 24 | Namaste's 12 <sup>th</sup> birthday party         |
| December 03  | Christmas party for animals, volunteers and staff |

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