'ELEPAIO

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The Micronesian Megapode on Tinian, Mariana Islands

by Gary J. Wiles[1], Robert E. Beck[1], and A. Binion Amerson[2]

The Micronesian Megapode *(Megapodius laperouse laperouse)* was once distributed throughout the Mariana Islands (Baker 1951, Falanruw 1975). The species has been recorded from each of the islands in the chain except Farallon de Medinilla, which has never been properly surveyed (Falanruw 1975). Although reports are unclear, megapodes are believed to have disappeared from the large, southern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam sometime between the late 1800s and early 1930s (Baker 1951, Owen 1974). Possible reasons for the demise of megapodes in the Marianas are: nest predation by humans, feral pigs *(Sus scrofa),* monitor lizards *(Varanus indicus),* feral dogs *(Canis familiaris),* and feral cats *(Felis catus)* (Baker 1951, Greenway 1967, Falanruw 1975), hunting of adult birds (Engbring and Pratt 1985), and loss of habitat caused by feral ungulates (Lemke 1984) and agricultural development (Greeway 1967).

In the southern Marianas, small populations of megapodes presently exist on Aguijan, a small, uninhabited island south of Tinian (Engbring *et al.* 1986, Lemke 1984), and Saipan, where a small number of birds were rediscovered in 1978 (Pratt and Bruner 1978). In addition, several unverified sightings of megapodes on Tinian and Rota (Owen 1974, Engbring *et al.* 1986) have given hope that the species presently exists on these islands as well. Indeed, a juvenile bird was captured by a farmer on Rota in 1985 (D. Aldan pers. comm.). During 1984 and 1985, we visited Tinian (15°00′N, 145°38′E) four times for a total of 23 days as part of a study to describe the island's fauna and flora (Hawaiian Agronomics, Inc. 1985). This paper reports the sighting of a Micronesian Megapode that was made on Tinian in May 1985. This is the first confirmed sighting of a megapode on Tinian since the turn of the century.

METHODS

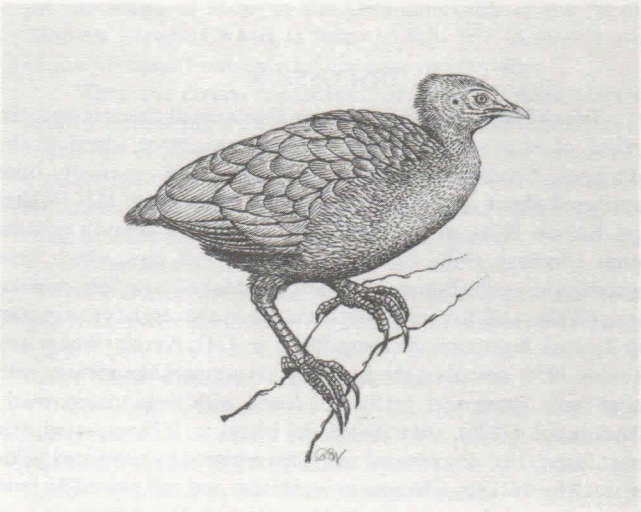
Visits to Tinian were made on 21–25 November 1984, 5–12 January 1985, 10–14 May 1985, and 11–15 October 1985. Searches for Micronesian Megapodes were confined to the northern two-thirds of the island, which may be developed as a military base by the U.S. Navy. Efforts to find megapodes were concentrated along a steep hillside that extends approximately 6 km from Maga southeast to Laderan Lasu in north-central Tinian. This area is vegetated with native limestone forest and is similar to habitats used by megapodes on Saipan and Aguijan (Lemke 1984, Engbring *et al.* 1986).

Because megapodes are most vocal in the hours after dawn (Pratt and Bruner 1978), two methods were used to search for birds. During mornings of each trip, observers walked quietly along portions of the hillside or through a variety of habitats at other locations and watched and listened for megapodes while conducting various field activities. In addition, on three mornings in May, tape-recorded megapode calls were played to elicit calling from wild birds. Calls were played for several minutes at stations spaced approximately 100 m apart along the hillside at sites north of Maga and east of the Japanese shrine at Lasu. Calls were audible for approximately 40–50 m.

RESULTS

The single sighting of a Micronesian Megapode was made at 0630 hrs on 14 May in limestone forest on the hillside north of Maga (Figure 1) by Wiles, who had previously observed megapodes on Saipan and Guguan. The bird was seen briefly for about 15 seconds as it walked slowly down hill from the bottom of a small cliff face. The bird was viewed for several seconds with 7X binoculars at a distance of 15 to 20 m. It had a dark gray body, a lighter gray-colored head with a small crest, and dull yellow legs. The bird's coloration, small size, short tail, and manner of walking distinguished it from Red Junglefowl *(Gallus gallus)* and Common Moorhens *(Gallinula chloropus),* the only other species of ground-dwelling birds on Tinian that could be mistaken for megapodes. No vocalizations from the megaode were heard.

The forest in this area was 6 to 10 m tall; dominant species were *Cynometra ramiflora, Guamia mariannae, Ficus tinctoria, Premna obtusifolia, Pisonia grandis,* and the vine *Mikania scandens.* The hillside was approximately 50 m high and characterized by thin rocky soil, numerous rock outcrops, small 5- 7-m-tall cliff faces, and a slope of 25° to 40°. There was little indication of recent grazing by cattle in the area.



Micronesian Megapode.
Drawing by Ronald Walker, adapted from Fig. 17 in J.C. Greenway, Jr. "Extinct and Vanishing Birds of the World."

From 0900 to 1130 hrs the same morning, the authors returned to the area where the bird was seen. Tape-recorded calls were played from eight nearby locations, but no responses were heard from the megapode. Tape-recorded calls also were played in the same area on 11 May and on the hillside at Lasu on 12 May. Megapodes did not respond on either occasion.

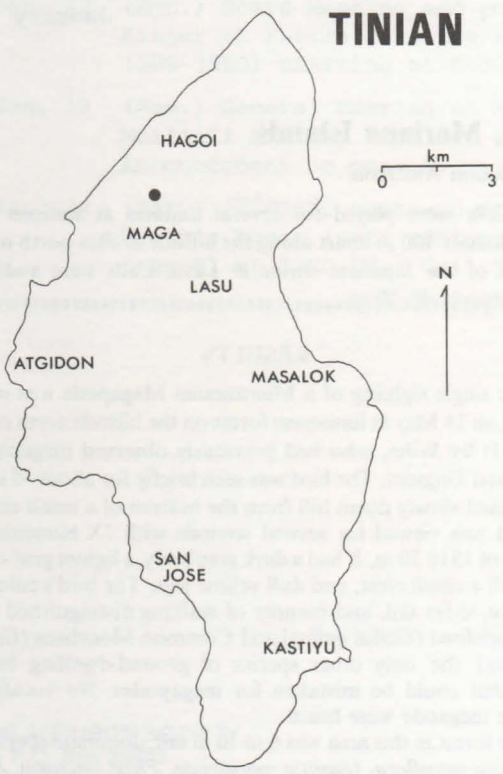


Figure 1. Map of Tinian, Mariana Islands. A sighting of a Micronesian Megapode (closed circle) occurred north of Maga in May, 1985.

DISCUSSION

Tinian has undergone extensive vegetational changes since the arrival of man, perhaps more so than any other island in the Marianas. Chamorro residents on Tinian, who reportedly once numbered about 30,000 prior to European contact in 1521 (Walter and Robins 1974), probably altered much of the island's original forest (Fosberg 1960). Cattle *(Bos taurus)* and pigs, which were introduced by early European settlers, established large feral populations (Walter and Robins 1974) that also had a severe adverse impact on Tinian's vegetation (Fosberg 1960). In 1742, Anson (Walter and Robins 1974) described the island as having parklike scenery with large open lawns and patches of forest with little undergrowth. Gaudichaud (1826), who visited the island in 1819, reported that most forests had disappeared and been replaced by cultivated fields or shrubby thickets. Changes in vegetation and soil caused by feral livestock and humans probably affected the population of Micronesian Megapodes on Tinian as much as any other factor.

By 1820, when the megapode was first collected from Tinian (the island is the type locality of *M. laperouse*), Berard already considered the species to be uncommon (Quoy and Gaimard 1824). Safford (1902) claimed that megapodes were common on the island, but he provided no evidence to support his statement. Owen (1974) believed that megapodes may have become extinct on Tinian around the turn of this century. If any birds had survived on the island until a later date, they probably would have been affected by Japanese agricultural activities from the 1920s to the 1940s, when most of the island was cleared for cultivation of sugar cane. Ornithological surveys conducted during World War II (Marshall 1949, Downs 1946) and more recently (Owen 1974, Pratt *et al.* 1979, Engbring *et al.* 1986, Lemke 1984) failed to locate megapodes on the island. However, Owen (1974) did obtain a reliable report of two birds seen prior to his visit to Tinian in 1974, and he believed that megapodes would eventually be found on the island.

The origin of the single bird observed in this study is unknown. However, because of the general lack of reported sightings, it seems doubtful that Tinian has supported a small resident population that has remained undetected for many years. More likely, megapodes have recolonized the island either naturally or by the aid of humans. The nearby islands of Saipan (5 km northeast of Tinian) and Aguijan (9 km south) each have small populations of megapodes that could act as a source of birds flying to Tinian. Megapodes appear to be capable of dispersing between islands in the Marianas (Engbring *et al.* 1986), as is suggested by the presence of a bird on the remote and highly volcanic island of Farallon de Pajaros (Falanruw 1975). In Palau, *M. l. senex* has been observed flying several kilometers between islands (Pratt and Bruner 1978). Alternately, birds may have been brought to Tinian by humans. This occurred at least twice on Saipan during the 1960s, when residents brought megapode eggs or adult birds to the island from other islands in the northern Marianas (Engbring *et al.* 1986, T. K. Pratt pers. comm.).

The Micronesian Megapode is listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as endangered throughout its range in the Mariana and the Palau Islands, where a different subspecies resides (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1970). Fortunately, the species appears to have great potential for recovery. Eggs can be easily transported, and chicks are fully independent upon hatching, thus making these birds good candidates for reintroductions to islands where they have become extirpated (Engbring and Pratt 1985). These and other recovery efforts for *M. I. laperouse* would be aided by the preparation of a recovery plan by the USFWS. Such a document would outline a strategy to restore the species, assign responsibilities to appropriate natural resource agencies, and establish a schedule for implementing management activities.

Conservation efforts on Tinian should include an extensive survey of the remnant stand of limestone forest at Kastiyu. If a few birds are found, as is likely, then a reintroduction program should be initiated to establish a viable breeding population on the island. Eggs or birds for restocking could be obtained from several northern islands, such as Guguan or Sarigan, where high megapode densities currently exist (Lemke 1984). Finally, protection should be given to habitats of potential use by megapodes, such as Tinian's remaining stands of limestone forest. Clearing should be prohibited, and cattle should be prevented from grazing in these areas. The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has already taken a step in this direction by declaring the Kastiyu region as an official Wildlife Area.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Micronesian Megapode captured on Saipan, Mariana Islands.
Photo by Thomas O. Lemke

Nests of Mariana Fruit-Dove *(Ptilinopus roseicapilla)* on Rota, Mariana Islands

by Gordon Claridge

While carrying out a census of bird species in strand vegetation on the island of Rota in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), in June and July 1983, I found four nests of the Mariana Fruit-Dove *(Ptilinopus roseicapilla).*

When the census commenced on June 20, three nests were located along a one km transect through the strand vegetation. I had found one of these nests some days before and had measured and replaced the two eggs that it contained. On 20 June, both these eggs had hatched. The other two nests each contained a single egg. One of these hatched on 28 June, and the other appeared to be abandoned soon after that date. On 29 June, another nest (0.6 m up in a *Pemphis acidula* shrub) was located within one m of the transect. (No counts were done on 24–27 June.) This nest contained a single egg and may have been constructed by the bird from the nest mentioned above which had been abandoned.

Nest heights ranged from 1.0 to 2.0 m above ground. All were flimsy platforms of loosely aggregated sticks through which daylight was easily visible. All were in the upper parts of *Pemphis acidula* shrubs. *P. acidula* is one of two strand species — the other being *Suriana maritima* — known on Rota as "nigas" and protected by local legislation (Taitano pers. comm.).

Some of the eggs were white, others were creamy, but all had a delicate rose tint. Two measured were 21 x 28 mm and 22 x 30 mm. This is close to the 21.1 x 30.4 mm reported for the Australian *Ptilinopus regina* (Frith 1982), which Cain (1954) includes in the same superspecies. This Australian species, which is very similar in appearance to *Ptilinopus roseicapilla*, has a similar nest and call and lays only one (white) egg.

The incubating birds remained motionless on the nest unless closely approached (sometimes to within less than two m), when they would rise quickly and fly into the nearby forest.

The two young observed on 20 June were still in the nest on the morning of the 23rd, but they and the adult were gone at midday on that day. I suspect that the young were taken by Collared Kingfishers *(Halcyon chloris)* or Black Drongos *(Dicrurus macrocercus)* which were seen in the area.

Jenkins (1983) has summarized the work of previous researchers and presented it together with his own data on the nesting of the Mariana Fruit-Dove on Guam. He gives an average height of nests above ground of 2.8 m (range = 1.0 – 7.0 m). Eggs are described as ivory white, in clutches of one, and one measurement of 22.4 x 31.0 mm is given. Nest are recorded in *Pithecellobium dulce, Triphasia trifolia, Avicennia alba,* and *Casuarina equisetifolia.*

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Australia

Mariana Fruit-Dove on its nest, Rota, Mariana Islands.
Photo by Thane K. Pratt

NEST DISCOVERED FOR THE FIRST TIME OF ENDANGERED PO'O-ULI

(Editors' note: The following news release was received from the U. S. Fish &Wildlife Service, Portland, Oregon. We first reported on the Po'o-uli nest in "Recent Observations" 'Elepaio 146:156-157)

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists have for the first time discovered the nest of the very rare Hawaiian forest bird, the Po'o-uli, and have documented its behavior during courtship, nesting, and rearing of young.

The Po'o-uli nest was discovered March 3, 1986, during a field trip into the remote Hanawi rainforest on the northeast slope of Haleakala, Maui by Cam Kepler, Betsy Gagné, and Allen Allison. The biologists heard birds singing and quickly found a pair of Po'o-uli in courtship behavior and carrying nesting material. The nest was composed of twigs and mosses tightly woven into a terminal leaf cluster nearly 40 feet up in an ohia tree.

A research study team was quickly organized by the Fish and Wildlife Service and Andrew Engilis of the B. P. Bishop Museum to document Po'o-uli nesting. Field crews, consisting of the principal investigators, Marie Ecton and Kepler, and one volunteer, were flown into the east Maui site by Tom Hauptman of Sunair Helicopters. A base camp was established in the upper portion of the forest and researchers hiked the rigorous trail down to the nest site every morning to set up a spotting scope and record all activities of the nesting pair. During the months of March and April, the Hanawi rainforest received many days of heavy rainfall. Field crews endured periods of continuous rain exceeding 56 hours and rainfall accumulating up to more than 20 inches within a three day period.

The first research crew went into the Hanawi forest area to observe the nest on March 17. Data on incubation and behavior of the nesting adult pair were gathered regularly. The female Po'o-uli was the sole incubating parent, attending the nest for long periods of time and departing only to forage for food. The male bird foraged in the nesting area and beyond and would bring food items to the female on the nest. This behavior is common for the native honeycreepers.

The nest was watched closely every week until April 8, when the researchers were driven out of the area by extremely bad weather. On their return on April 14, they found the nest to be abandoned by the adult birds, presumably due to the heavy rains. However, the adults

were still in the area and were seen feeding and heard calling regularly in the forest understory.

On April 16, a research team returned to the nest area and discovered the birds in the process of constructing a second nest. On May 5, a crew of observers began another period of regular nest observations. At this time, the female bird was seen incubating eggs, and the male was diligent as ever in providing food for his mate. The first egg hatched on May 11, and the second on May 14, and by May 19, two grey, downy-headed chicks were finally seen. This was a very busy time for the adult birds, who were seen making frequent trips to the nest, feeding insect larvae, snails, and other unidentifiable items to their hungry young.

Unfortunately, this second attempt at rearing young did not pass without its own sad note. The parents were observed feeding two chicks in the nest on May 29, but upon the researchers' return to the nest the next morning, they found only one chick in the nest. Speculations on the fate of the missing bird include loss to a predator or possibly death due to weakness. On May 31, the single remaining chick flew from its nest for the first time, much to the enjoyment of the biologists who had worked so hard to record this exciting event. The buffy-brown, partially black-masked fledgling was observed with its parents for a short time the following day.

It is hoped that this site may possibly be a nesting area for this pair again next year, as some birds are known to renest in the same vicinity during successive seasons. The nest study has provided a great deal of new information on the endangered Po'o-uli. Indeed, there is much more to learn about the basic life histories of all the endangered and threatened birds in Hawaii. Gathering this kind of information will eventually provide answers to how these birds utilize the forests they inhabit, what factors are involved in limiting bird distribution and abundance, and how these forests might best be protected or managed for the preservation of the native Hawaiian species.

Numerous volunteers, including members of the Bishop Museum and the Hawaii Audubon Society, endured many long but rewarding hours in the cold and wet forest to gather this exciting information.

TESTIMONY FOR QUEEN'S BEACH PROTECTION

(Editors' note: On November 19, the following testimony was given by Hawaii Audubon at a Honolulu City Council hearing regarding zoning changes at Queen's Beach)

This testimony is submitted on behalf of the 1900 member Hawaii Audubon Society which is the local chapter of the National Audubon Society. We have supported previous city administrative and committee actions to remove resort designations for Queen's Beach and are here to voice our continued support for these actions.

The coastal area from Wawamalu Beach Park to Makapuu Point and extending mauka to Kalanianaole Highway contains an important coastal ecosystem with its dependent wildlife. The Queen's Beach area contains some of the only representative native coastal plants on southeast Oahu, and these plus their dependent invertebrates conservationists consider to represent an endangered ecosystem, one which is not yet adequately protected anywhere in the main islands.

Several of the plants there are important in their own right. For example, the 'Iliahi aloe or Coastal Sandalwood *(Santalum ellipticum* var. *littorale)* is under Federal review for potential listing as an endangered species. Ma'o or Hawaiian Cotton *(Gossypium tomentosum)* growing there represents a genetic resource of global importance. Ma'o has a unique feature rendering it relatively unattractive to ants which are one of the major pest problems on commercial cotton. Scientists in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture have successfully crossed Hawaiian and commercial cottons and have been able to pass on these special attributes of the former to the latter. These hybrid lines have also been found to be more resistant to other major cotton pests such as the Lygus bug and are now being released to growers around the world. Savings in pesticide applications no longer necessary will amount to billions of dollars in the years ahead. As a society we have a responsibility to save these genetic resources in their wild habitats. Suppose, for instance, that the wild ancestors of sugar cane in New Guinea, or pineapple in South America, were destroyed. Where would we be able to seek new genetic material should a disease or pest appear here?

Residents, researchers, educators, and visitors have and will continue to value this area the way it is now. We ask you to take steps to better protect these native wildlife

values and prevent further damage to this ecosystem from off-road vehicles and fires. This should help assure the survival of a now-beleaguered Hawaiian ecosystem and its rare native species.

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to give our reasons why Queen's Beach should not receive a resort designation and why it should be protected from urbanization through "preservation" zoning allowing it to remain as one of our southeast shoreline's last significant open spaces.

IF YOU LIKED VIETNAM, YOU'L LOVE KAUAI

Helicopter tourism has turned the last areas of wilderness on Kauai into a war zone, with as many as 100 flights per day roaring over the world's most prized beaches and verdant canyons.

Waimea Canyon, Kokee State Park and the Na Pali Coast are areas of pristine beauty, displaying some of the most awesome scenery on the globe. Yet they are the sites of gross abuse by some of man's noisiest machines thundering overhead at treetop level.

The millions of tourists who travel from all over the world to swim, hike, backpack, fish, boat, and drive in Kauai have a right to enjoy the island in silence.

Attached is a log of overflights I recorded in various natural areas on Kauai during a recent visit. The figures demonstrate that the situation is no longer tolerable, worse even than in Grand Canyon where a mid-air collision recently claimed 25 lives and where the Park Service is proposing measures to limit flights over the Canyon.

Similar restrictions are needed on Kauai to preserve the restful vacation experience that tourists travel thousands of miles to find on Kauai.

Though helicopter tourism is no doubt a lucrative business venture, it may well destroy other aspects of Kauai's number one industry. When tourists discover that the island is no longer the peaceful refuge it is purported to be, they will find other, quieter places to spend their vacations and dollars.

I came to Kauai like everyone else to rest and relax and found no tropical paradise but instead one of the noisiest places in the Pacific.

The noise must be stopped!

Bob DeNike
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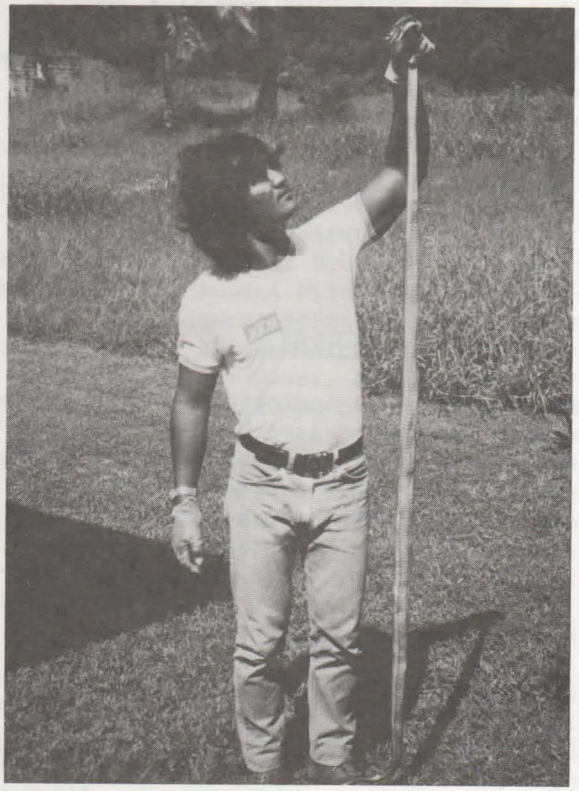
HELICOPTER FLIGHTS RECORDED, KAUAI

Location	Date	Total Hours	Total Flights	Frequency (flights/hour)
Kukui Trail (Waimea Canyon)	6/23/86	6	43	7.2
Koaie Canyon (Waimea Canyon)	6/25/86	11	60	5.4
Kukui Trail (Waimea Canyon)	6/26/86	4	37	9.3
Kalalau Trail (Na Pali Coast)	6/29/86	7	61	8.7
Kalalau Trail (Na Pali Coast)	6/30/86	9	118	13.11

BIRD-EATING SNAKE THREATENS HAWAII

The latest potential threat to Hawaii's bird life is the Brown Tree Snake, *Boiga irregularis*, and the State Department of Agriculture has announced an all-out effort to prevent its entry into Hawaii. The snake has been found in Hawaii twice so far--once on Sand Island, where it is suspected of having crawled off a ship or out of a shipping crate from Guam, and once at Hickam Air Force Base, where it might have gotten out of a transport plane.

The snake has eaten most of Guam's bird life, including several native birds found nowhere else. The snake, which may reach a length of ten feet, was introduced there shortly after World War II, perhaps in a military ship or plane from the Solomon Islands or New Guinea, where it is a native. The slender, almost whiplike, tree-dwelling snake hunts at night and eats small birds, chicks and eggs. After eliminating most of Guam's bird life, it went after rats, mice and geckos. It has caused the extinction of virtually all Guam's forest birds and has even entered homes searching for caged birds.



On Guam, Herman Muna of the Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources holds up an 8-foot Brown Tree Snake.

Photo by Thane K. Pratt

The snakes also climb electrical power poles and short out electrical lines, causing problems for Guam's power company. They can crawl anywhere, including into auto air conditioners. They are poisonous, but their fangs are back in their mouths, so they have to be well into chewing something before their venom kills it.

Anyone spotting this or any other snake should call the Plant Quarantine Office on Oahu at 548-2175.

VOLUNTEER FOR HAWAII NATURE CENTER

Volunteer training for teaching docents at the HAWAII NATURE CENTER will be given on January 14, 15, & 16, 1987. Our goal is to give to Oahu's school children a taste of the natural world by taking them on hikes, stream investigations, bamboo jungle journeys, etc. We foster an awareness of natural processes in kids who otherwise spend most of their lives surrounded by cement and high-rises. For more information on our program and training, call Jack Leishman at 942-0990.

HAWAII AUDUBON SOCIETY'S HAWAIIAN WILDLIFE PHOTO/ART EXHIBIT

The Hawaiian Wildlife Photo/Art Exhibit will run through the month of March in the exhibit room at Hoomaluhia Botanic Garden in Kaneohe. Entries will be received on Saturday, 21 February 1987 and Sunday, 22 February 1987 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the exhibit room at Hoomaluhia. The reception will be held on Sunday, 1 March from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Participants must be Hawaii Audubon Society members or become a H.A.S. member by the time the work is submitted (membership forms will be available during the receiving of entries).

GUIDELINES: Subject matter should pertain to plants, animals, scenery or people and nature, in Hawaii. There will be a $3.00 donation per piece to help pay for exhibit costs and awards, and a 6-piece maximum per person. There are no size restrictions; however, all participants will be required to have their pieces framed or neatly-presented (pieces will be exhibited as they are submitted).

Awards will be provided by the following stores: the Frame Shack, Light Incorporated, and Hawaiian Graphics.

DONATIONS SOUGHT FOR 'ELEPAIO COMPUTER

For the past ten years, the newsletter portion of the *'Elepaio* has been typed out on the Society's IBM typewriter. This faithful machine has begun to falter in recent months. Rather than replace it with a newer model, the editorial committee has recommended, and the HAS Board has approved, the purchase of a computer, printer, and software appropriate for producing our journal. By entering the world of "desk top publishing," we hope to streamline the typing and layout while improving the style of the journal. The new machinery has been priced at $8,000. The Society is now soliciting donations to cover part or all of the purchase. If you would like to contribute towards this improvement of our journal, please send your donation to:

'Elepaio Fund
Hawaii Audubon Society
Box 22832
Honolulu, HI 96822

NEW ADDRESS FOR THE 'ELEPAIO

The *'Elepaio* will be moving to a new address, beginning 1 January 1987. T. Pratt's new apartment, a block-and-a-half mauka of his present residence on Spencer Street, offers to paste-up participants the same convenient, in-town location and AMPLE PARKING. Correspondence for the *'Elepaio* should be sent to this new address:

The 'Elepaio
1022 Prospect St., Apt. 1103
Honolulu, HI 96822.

POSTCARDS AVAILABLE

Post cards of the Hawaiian Monk Seal hauled out alongside a Hawaiian Green (Sea) Turle are still for sale by the Hawaii Audubon Society. The cards come in packets of 50 and sell for $6.00 a packet. Please send requests and checks to:

Hawaii Audubon Postcards
c/o Marjorie F. Ziegler
45-636 Liula Place
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

JANUARY PROGRAM

SEABIRDS: ANCIENT LORE AND MODERN CHALLENGES

David Boynton and Steven Montgomery, both recognized experts on Hawaii's wildlife, will present the January program. Dave will discuss the ancient Hawaiians' use of birds for navigation, fishing, feathers, food, and legend. Steve will focus on the problems facing the Kilauea Point, Kauai seabird colonies and what can be done to help ensure their survival. He will also have photos and a 10-minute film of the successful establishment of a protected breeding colony of Royal Albatrosses at Taiaroa, New Zealand. The meeting will be held at 7:30 P.M. on Monday, 19 January 1987, at the McCully-Moiliili Library.

JANUARY 1987 FIELD TRIP

The field trip for January 1987 will be held at Queen's Beach by trip leader Ray Tabata. Strand vegetation and tide pool organisms will be the focus of the trip; tide conditions will be excellent. Bring sunscreen and water. Meet at the State Library on Punchbowl Street at 8:30 a.m. on 11 January 1987 or at Queen's Beach at 9:15 a.m.

ERRATA

BALLOT PROBLEMS - We apologize again to Bruce Eilerts, this time because his "CV" was omitted from the ballot. We recommend that authors of ballots, etc. for the *'Elepaio* check their manuscripts carefully before submitting them to us. We cannot be held responsible for passing along errors. Also, we must be notified of special publication instructions, such as including envelopes with the ballots!

PALILA VS MOUFLON - In last month's article, "Palila wins again!" (*'Elepaio* 46:194) we neglected to mention two important plaintiffs in the case: the Palila itself and Alan Ziegler. Ziegler was largely responsible for initiating an earlier case that resulted in the removal of feral sheep and goats from the designated critical habitat of the Palila on Mauna Kea.

HAWAII AUDUBON SOCIETY - 1986

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FREE ICE CREAM

Will again be served to those volunteers who help with the typing, proof-reading, or paste-up of next month's *'Elepaio* at Thane Pratt's new apartment, 1022 Prospect St., Apt. 1103, on Saturday, 24 January 1987, at 1:00 PM. Phone 524-8464 for more information. Authors of articles, notices, etc. must submit these by 15 January to be included in the February issue.

Many thanks to Ed Coffin, Sheila Conant, Rob Fleischer, and David McCauley for help with the preparation of this issue.

'ELEPAIO

Editors	Thane Pratt	524-8464
	Sheila Conant	948-8241
Production	Robert Fleischer, Marie Morin, Robert Pyle	
Mailing	George Campbell, Susan Schenk, Alan Ziegler	

(MANUSCRIPTS of articles and newsletter items may be sent to the Managing Editor at 954 Spencer St., Honolulu, HI 96822. Articles not subject to peer review MUST be received by the 15th of each month to be considered for publication in the next month's issue.

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All Local Memberships and Subscriptions are for a calendar year January through December.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan. 11 (Sun.) Field Trip to Queen's Beach. Meet at State Library on Punchbowl St. at 8:30 PM. Announcement on page 8.

Jan. 12 (Mon.) Board Meeting and pot luck dinner at Sheila Conant's house (988-3960) starting at 6:30 PM.

Jan. 19 (Mon.) General Meeting at McCulley-Moiliili Library at 7:300 PM. Announcement on page 8.

Jan. 24 (Sat.) *'Elepaio* paste-up at Thane Pratt's house (note address change, page 9) at 1:00 PM. Call 524-8464.

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