

Chevron Gives HAS Major Grant

As this issue went to press, we learned that Chevron USA Products Company had given a sizeable donation to Hawaii Audubon to design and implement an oiled wildlife rehabilitation program. HAS President Reginald E. David said, "we are very excited about this opportunity to continue and expand this hands on program. We must be ready when an oil spill occurs in Hawaii. We must have volunteers who are trained in capturing, cleaning, and releasing oiled wildlife who have also been certified to work with hazardous materials. These funds will enable us to get this program going."

More details will appear in the February 'Elepaio.

Student Power: Hope for the Present and the Future

by Sheila A. Laffey

A letter announcing an Aloha 'Aina Student Conference: Environmental Action for the Future jumped out of my mail and an internal voice resoundingly said yes, of course, this is the next inevitable step. The conference sponsored by the Environmental Action Group at UH, Life of the Land, and the Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC) was held at the UH-Manoa campus on 6 November and attracted 120 participants, including more than 20 from the neighbor islands.

Students listened to Honolulu City Council Chairman Gary Gill, *Environment Hawai'i* editor Pat Tummons, and local farmer and

activist Guy Nakamoto, Janie Deuser of the Recycling Association, Marjorie Ziegler of Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, and Arlene Woo of the Earthware Store. Workshop topics included Native Hawaiian sovereignty and the environmental movement, tourism, energy, politics, and government responsibility, deep ecology/eco-feminism/bioregionalism, jobs and the environment, eco-business/eco-tourism, and organic gardening.

I had the pleasure of co-leading a biodiversity workshop with Abdi Soltani, a student at Stanford University and SEAC leader, and Raj Puri, a UH graduate student in anthropology. My interactions with these young people gave me much hope for they were deeply concerned, thoughtful, and action oriented. Students in the group agreed to help support legislation involving three steps to protect native koa forests in Hawaii and to write to our congressional delegation thanking members for their support of re-authorization and strengthening of the Endangered Species Act while also urging continued preservation efforts. The answer to a sample Paradise Pursuits question involving opihi which I threw out to the group elicited a well informed explanation by botanist Rick Palmer.

Alicia Middleton, President of the Earth Club at Seabury Hall on Maui, said that attending the conference boosted her confidence, assuring her that what she was doing was not pointless and really did make a difference. She observed that her group had procrastinated in its recycling efforts during the first three months of school and that after returning to school the club set the program up within a week in all the classrooms. She created an environmental club list by reading name tags at the conference and asking other students if their school had such a group. Her group is planning a bi-monthly newsletter about the reality of what's happening in their



Fred Kobashikawa, seated right, of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., holding Paradise Pursuits logo. Presentation was made at Hawaii Environmental Education Association annual conference in appreciation of funding for Paradise Pursuits by Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. Also pictured are Sheila Laffey, Paradise Pursuits Coordinator, seated left, and standing, left to right, Kersten Johnson, Randy Scoville, host of the mock competition at the conference, and Mary Jo Gellenbeck. Photo by Stan Michaels.

own backyard, especially in Hana and Haiku and plans to network with the other clubs.

Two years ago a SEAC conference in the Carolinas drew a staggering 7,600 students from all 50 states and 12 foreign countries. Last year 5,000 students managed to find their way to the conference at the University of Boulder in Colorado, in spite of a snow storm. Gary Forth, student organizer of the Hawaii conference, noted that momentum is building and that smaller conferences to be held on each island in the spring are in the planning stages. SEAC leaders will also be coming from the Mainland to provide training workshops for Hawaii's students.

Concerning Paradise Pursuits, we've often said it's not what we know but what we do with what we know. Coaches have observed that their students' preparations for the competitions result in a greater concern for the environment and an attendant desire to know what they can do. We plan to facilitate some of the networking among environmentally concerned students in the state through contact with Paradise Pursuits' 31 teams, which represent nearly half of the high schools in the state.

Following are the schools and coaches participating in Paradise Pursuits for the 1993-'94 season:

Hawai'i: Hawaii Preparatory Academy, Matt Hughes; Hilo HS, Julia Williams; Honoka'a HS, Keith Burchett; Ka'u HS, Terence Moniz and Jim Cuddihy; Kohala HS, Janet Weiss; Konawaena HS, Jim Wiley; Laupahoehoe HS, Claire Funetani; Pahoa HS, Ann Caldwell; Parker School, Pat Wagner; St. Joseph, Dan Churach and Mimi Francis; and Waiakea HS, Paula Demorales.

Kaua'i: Kaua'i HS, Sharon Orth; and Waimea HS, Kevin Young.

Maui: Baldwin HS, Don Gard; Lahainaluna HS, Ed Bartholomew; Maui HS, Warren Liu; and Seabury Hall, Cyndi Glennon.

O'ahu: Castle HS, Kate O'Malley; Farrington HS, Nancy Howarth; Iolani School, Vince Totero; Kahuku HS, Ann Zellinger; Kalaheo HS, Barbara Volhein; Kalani HS, Lorene Suehiro; Kamehameha Schools, Richard Mills and Chuck Burroughs; La Pietra, Hawaii School for Girls, Ruth Hilberg and Tom Sheeran; Leileihua HS, Robert Keane; Mililani HS, Richard Gramlich; Moanalua HS, Darin Kohara; Roosevelt HS, Natalie Ahu; Sacred Hearts Academy, Mrs. G. Fouts; and Waipahu HS, Liza Toshiko Shigetani.

Alien Species Enforcement Task Force

Senator Daniel K. Akaka has added an amendment to the Crime Bill now pending in the House of Representatives that would establish a law enforcement task force to facilitate the more effective safeguarding of Hawaii from illegal shipments of destructive and dangerous plants and animals. Akaka said that in October "a report by the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) found that Hawaii represents the worst-case example of the Nation's alien species problem. Alien species threaten to exterminate the State's native plant and animal communities, as well as cause irreparable damage to agriculture, tourism, and human health. The OTA concluded that there are few economic or noneconomic activities in Hawaii that are unaffected by the influx of non-indigenous species.

"However," Akaka pointed out, "the greatest difficulty in overcoming this prob-

lem is the morass of overlapping, sometimes conflicting, laws administered by a host of government agencies that all have responsibility for guarding against these pests. The OTA report identified five federal and three State agencies all tasked with enforcing these statutes."

The U.S. has no real national policy to prevent the harmful introduction of non-indigenous species. According to the OTA, the current system is "piecemeal, lacking adequate rigor and comprehensiveness."

Akaka's proposal would create a mechanism for federal and State law enforcement agencies to share information, resources, and strategies to prosecute violations of laws intended to prevent the introduction of noxious species into Hawaii.

Akaka noted that an average of 19 new pests become established in Hawaii each year.

Source: Senator Akaka's Office

Newsnotes

Recent work by USFWS biologists has shown that juvenile 'I'iwi are highly susceptible to fatal avian malaria infections from only a single mosquito bite. This high sensitivity may partially explain the continuing decline of these birds in mid-elevation forests on Kaua'i,

Maui, and Hawai'i, which harbor low-level mosquito infestations.

Researchers monitoring the health of the recently released captive-bred 'Alala on Hawai'i have found indications that this species has the ability to survive avian malaria infections in the wild. One of the released birds was recently diagnosed with avian malaria, but by the time it was captured and the diagnosis verified, it had already begun to recover on its own. Other released birds have shown some signs of infection in the past, but currently all of them are healthy.

In September 1993, a large influx of the avian malaria-carrying mosquito *Culex quinquefasciatus* occurred at the 3800 ft. elevation Olinda bird breeding facility on Maui. Testing of trapped mosquitos revealed that several carried avian malaria. This was the first such influx since work began at the area in 1986, and it is not known if this represents a permanent adaptation on the part of the mosquitos or is only a temporary phenomenon.

(Source: Hawaii State Division of Forestry and Wildlife)

Compiled by Andy Cowell

Your Bequest Can Help

A bequest to the Hawaii Audubon Society is an excellent way to help in our conservation efforts. George C. Munro, enthusiastic and tireless field ornithologist and naturalist, provided for a fund to be used exclusively for the protection of native dry forests. Today, the George C. Munro Fund provides money for research projects on such forests.

Although an attorney should be consulted in the drafting of your will, a model clause for bequests is set forth below.

"I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to the Hawaii Audubon Society, Honolulu, Hawai'i, the sum of _____ dollars (or set forth a description of property), to be used for the general purpose of said organization."

For more information and assistance, contact the Hawaii Audubon Society, 1088 Bishop Street, Suite 808, Honolulu, HI 96813, (808) 528-1432.

Volunteers Needed—Please Sign Up

by Lynne Matusow

A volunteer organization is only as good as the efforts put forth by its members. Without the assistance of members like you, the Hawaii Audubon Society will be hard pressed to continue and expand its services. At press time we were seeking to fill the following positions:

Laysan Albatross Breeding Colony Project. Located on Kaohikaipu Island (Black Rock) off the windward coast of O'ahu, near Makapu'u Point, this project is a cooperative effort of the Hawaii and National Audubon Societies, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S.D.A. Animal Damage Control, Dr. Causey Whittow of the University of Hawaii, the State Division of Forestry and Wildlife, and Sea Life Park. The project will use decoys and recordings to attract young albatross looking for a suitable nesting place.

As a cooperator Hawaii Audubon needs volunteers to help monitor the response by young albatross to the decoys and tape recordings. Monitoring will be the primary measure of success for the project. Now is your chance to get in on the ground floor of this important wildlife recovery effort. Call Steve Carter at Hawaii Audubon, 528-1432.

Recording Secretary. This Board of Directors position entails taking and transcribing minutes at the monthly Board meetings and sending them to Board members. Call Linda Paul, 262-6859 (H).

Phone Tree Callers. We are growing a phone tree—a chain of people who can make calls to decision-makers on environmental issues. This allows the environmental community to respond very quickly with public pressure on important issues. To join our phone tree, call David Hill at 988-7460 (H).

Testimony Presenters. Here we need self-starters who can tactfully and effectively present testimony at the legislature, county councils, and hearings of governmental boards and agencies, usually on weekdays during daytime hours. If you can't write the testimony, we will have someone else do it. A knowledge of Hawaii, including issues, politicians, and who the players are is a big plus. A minimum of four hours a month is required. To volunteer call David Hill, 988-7460 (H).

Office Staff. Among the duties are answering the telephone, distributing the mail, referring problems to the appropriate officer or committee chair, inputting questionnaire data in the computer, filing, and responding to

routine correspondence. To volunteer call Lynne Matusow, 531-4260 (H).

Field Trip Leaders. You have asked us to expand our field trip offerings. To do so we need leaders on all islands. If you can donate a Saturday or Sunday once every few months and can lead a reef walk or have expertise in bird and/or plant identification call Lance Tanino, 247-5965 (H), Monday and Wednesday nights.

Paradise Pursuits Preliminaries. Enjoy a ring side seat at the Paradise Pursuits preliminaries by assisting with the competitions. Scorers and timers are needed for the following:

Hawai'i, 12 March, call Marie Morin, 329-9390 (H).

Kaua'i, 26 March, call Randy Yokoyama or Kali Lopez, 332-7324 (W).

Maui, 19 February, call Renata Gassmann-Duvall, 572-1584 (H).

O'ahu, 5 March (definite) and 2 April (tentative), call Emily Gardner, 734-3921 (H).

The above is only a partial list. If you have a particular skill or interest call Lynne Matusow, 531-4260 (H). Who knows, maybe we have the right opening but haven't publicized it yet. All of the above are volunteer positions. Hawaii Audubon does not have paid staff.

Volunteer News

The Hawaii Audubon Society welcomes several new volunteers and says thank you to ongoing volunteers who are staffing the office and assisting in a variety of projects.

George Campbell continues to staff the office Wednesday morning and early afternoon.

Steve Carter is our volunteer coordinator. He will be in the office on Monday mornings and is setting up volunteer programs where members will have hands on experience in the field. His top priority is the Laysan Albatross Breeding Colony project. Information on this is listed under the Volunteer Corner article on this page.

Andy Cowell plans to be in the office on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, when he is not presenting HAS testimony at the State legislature or substitute teaching. He is also writing stories for the 'Elepaio and working with the media.

Elly Roberts is our archivist and also works on special projects.

And a special Mahalo to the following volunteers who helped with the November ballot, dues renewal, and 'Elepaio mailing: Kathleen Aki, George Campbell, Lynn Carey, Andy Cowell, Helen Marston, Lynne Matusow, Christi Moore, Lynn Moore, Bob Pyle, and Elly Roberts.



Albatross and young. Photo © by Dr. Causey Whittow.

Pursuing Paradise

Volunteers Needed—Please Sign Up



Top left: Leslie Wilcox hosting the Paradise Pursuits finals on KHON-TV2 in January 1993 with the victorious team from Kamehameha Schools. Top right: Coach Lorene Suehiro watching Kalani High School team enjoying their prizes. Middle: left to right, Leslie Wilcox, volunteer Mary Joe Gellenbeck, judges Sam Gon and Emily Gardner, and volunteers Kersten Johnson and Candace Lutzow. Bottom left: Big Island preliminaries, left to right, Robert Mitsuyasu, Sean Wistrom, coach Keith Burchett, judge Marie Morin, and host Reginald E. David. Bottom right: Hana and Maui High School teams on a field trip led by Renata Gassmann-Duvall following the Maui competitions. Photos by Sheila A. Laffey.



Hawaii Audubon Society

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Second Vice President: Emily Gardner,
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Treasurer: Lynne Matusow, 531-4260 (H)
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Kevin Shaney, 988-5626 (H), 548-4811 (W),
548-6690 (FAX)
Joyce Stanney, 533-0204 (H), 543-0827 (W),
533-0308 (FAX)

Committees

Conservation: David Michael Hill (as above)
Education: Emily Gardner (as above)
Field Activities: Lance Tanino, 247-5965 (H),
call Monday and Wednesday nights
Finance: Lynne Matusow (as above)
Fundraising Task Force: Stan Michaels,
528-1432 (W)
Grants & Scholarships: Phil Bruner,
293-3820 (W)
Membership: Robert Pyle, 262-4046 (H)
Programs:
Publications: Reginald David (as above)
Publicity: E. J. "Jay" Lembeck (as above)

Island Representatives

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'ELEPAIO

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The 'Elepaio is printed on recycled paper.

T-shirts for Sale

The Hawaii Audubon Society has a stock of T-shirts designed to spread the Audubon message. Not only are they attractive personal apparel, but they make excellent presents as well.

T-shirts bearing the Society's 'Elepaio logo are available in ash (gray) with a black design. We also have a few in aqua, navy, white, and beige. In addition, the "hot" Kolea (Pacific Golden Plover) T-shirts are also available. This T-shirt is white with a three-color design of the Kolea and native hibiscus. Proceeds from the Kolea T-shirt go to help HAS fund research on shorebirds in Hawai'i and elsewhere in the Pacific region.

T-shirts are \$12 each, plus \$2.00 per shirt for postage. They are available in medium, large, and extra large adult sizes only. When ordering T-shirts, be sure to list size and first, second, and third choice of color. To order T-shirts send your check, payable to the Hawaii Audubon Society, to Yvonne Izu, 1957 Alai Place, Wahiawa, HI 96786. Don't forget to add \$2.00 per shirt for postage. Insufficient postage will delay your order until the proper amount is remitted. T-shirts are not available at the HAS office.

HAS Dues for 1994

All amounts are in U.S. dollars.
Includes delivery of 'Elepaio.

Regular Member

Delivery to U.S. zip code addresses
Via bulk mail \$ 10.00
(Not forwardable to new address)
Via first class mail 16.00
(Hawaii residents: there is no significant time difference between bulk and first class mail to addresses within the state of Hawaii.)

Junior Member (18 and under)	5.00
Contributing Member	30.00
Sustaining Member	100.00
Life Member (one-time payment)	250.00
(three annual payments)	100.00, 100.00, 50.00
Benefactor (one-time payment)	500.00
Patron (one-time payment)	1,000.00

Delivery to non-U.S. addresses:

Mexico (airmail only)	16.00
Canada (airmail only)	17.00
All other countries (surface mail)	18.00
All other countries (airmail)	28.00

Introductory dues for

National and Hawaii Societies: 20.00
(Includes delivery of 'Elepaio and Audubon Magazine as bulk or 2nd class mail to U.S. zip codes. Renewal, \$30 annually.)

Job Opening

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is accepting applications for a biological science technician to control introduced grass which is crowding out the native species of Laysan Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. Laysan is home to 17 species of nesting seabirds and two species of endangered landbirds. The introduced sand bur, *Cenchrus echinatus*, is an aggressive weed that is crowding out native plants and could have a dramatic effect on the ecosystem of the Island if left unchecked.

This is a temporary three to four month position. Applicants should be in good physical condition, be able to swim, and have demonstrated skills in field ornithological techniques. Contact with the outside world is through short-wave radio and occasional ship deliveries.

For more information contact Pacific/Remote Islands NWR Complex, P.O. Box 50167, Honolulu, HI 96850, (808) 541-1201.

Research Grants

The Hawaii Audubon Society makes grants for research in Hawaiian or Pacific natural history. Awards generally do not exceed \$500 and are oriented toward small-scale projects within Hawaii. Special consideration will be given to those applicants studying dryland forests and aeolian systems on Hawai'i. The deadlines for receipt of grant applications are 1 April and 1 October. For an application form send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Grants, Hawaii Audubon Society, 1088 Bishop Street, Suite 808, Honolulu, HI 96813. For more information, call Phil Bruner, (808) 293-3820 (W).

Birding on O'ahu

A two-page guide listing areas on O'ahu where interesting birds may be found and where access is not a problem is now available. Written by Peter Donaldson, it offers important information for birders unfamiliar with Hawaii. The guide is not designed to give detailed directions or information on bird identification. For a free copy, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to O'ahu Birding Guide, Hawaii Audubon Society, 1088 Bishop Street, Suite 808, Honolulu, HI 96813.

Calendar of Events

First Monday of Every Month

Monthly meeting of the Conservation Committee, 6:30 p.m., at the Coffee Line, 1820 University Avenue (in the YWCA). To join or for more information call David Hill, 988-7460 (H).

First Wednesday of Every Month

Monthly meeting of the Education Committee, 7:00 p.m. To join or for more information call Emily Gardner, 734-3921 (H). The Committee is actively seeking new members. All are welcome. The January meeting will be a holiday dinner and viewing of the 1993 Paradise Pursuits finals on Wednesday, January 5, 3580 Akaka Place, Manoa. For directions call Sheila Laffey, 988-5450 (H).

Monday, January 10

Board meeting, 7:00 p. m., HAS office. Call Reggie David on Hawai'i, 329-9141 (W), for details.

Monday, January 23

Field trip to Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve led by Betsy Harrison-Gagne, Executive

Secretary of the Natural Area Reserves System. This 3-4 hour hike features native plants, whales, monk seals, and birds (including the possibility of nesting Laysan Albatross). Meet at the State Library on Punchbowl Street at 7:00 a.m. or the end of the paved road at Mokule'ia, past Dillingham Field, at 8:15 a.m. Bring lunch, water, sun screen rainwear, and hiking shoes. For more information call Betsy Harrison-Gagne, 587-0063 (W). Suggested donation: \$2.00.

Monday, February 28

General membership Meeting, Paki Conference Room, Bishop Museum, 7:30 p.m. Look for details in the February 'Elepaio. Refreshments will be served.

Moving?

Please allow four weeks for processing address changes. Because our records are kept in order by zip code, we need both old and new addresses.

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Publications Available

The Hawaii Audubon Society publishes books, checklists, and field cards relating to birds of Hawaii and the Pacific. For a complete price list send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Publications List, Hawaii Audubon Society, 1088 Bishop Street, Suite 808, Honolulu, HI 96813.

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