



# 'ELEPAIO

Journal of the  
Hawaii Audubon Society  
For the Protection of  
Hawaii's Native Wildlife

VOLUME 69, NUMBER 2

MARCH 2009

## State of the Society 2008

By John Harrison, President

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *To foster community values that result in the protection and restoration of native ecosystems and conservation of natural resources through education, science and advocacy in Hawai'i and the Pacific.*

The Hawaii Audubon Society (HAS) was founded in 1939 as an independent, nonprofit membership association dedicated to the protection of Hawaii's native wildlife and habitats through education, science and advocacy. Current membership consists of approximately 1,300 individuals and institutions and operates in accordance with a constitution and by-laws under the supervision of a Board of Directors elected by the members. In 1978 HAS was named a certified chapter of the National Audubon Society, while continuing to function independently in all fiscal, policy and programmatic matters. An office manager, an aquatics programs director, and several independent contractors provide administrative and professional services for HAS, but many necessary tasks and responsibilities are accomplished through the efforts of dedicated volunteers statewide. HAS publishes the *'Elepaio*, a peer-reviewed journal, and operates two websites: [www.hawaii-audubon.com](http://www.hawaii-audubon.com) and [www.pacfish.org](http://www.pacfish.org). It is my privilege, as the current President of the Society, to offer the following review of the past year's activities and our principal goals for the coming year.

**Officers, Directors, Managers and Volunteers:** The 2008 HAS Board of Directors consisted of President John Harrison, First Vice President Wendy Johnson, Second Vice President Ron Walker, Recording Secretary Liz Kumabe, and Directors Carol Bebb, Phil Bruner, Arlene Buchholz, and Norma Bustos. I am grateful to all Directors who have given so much of their time voluntarily to further the mission of the Society. I also gratefully acknowledge the constant advice and support of our in-house counsel, Linda Paul, who works tirelessly to keep us in compliance with Federal and State regulatory provisions. Also, I deeply thank Casey Primacio, our Office Manager, without whose cheerful efforts and diligent attention to daily queries from members and directors alike HAS would quickly descend into confusion! Lydi Morgan and Ron Walker have done a terrific job assembling and editing the *'Elepaio* this year, for which we all are immensely grateful. Finally and especially, I extend heartfelt appreciation and thanks to the many members and volunteers for all of their time and dedicated efforts on behalf of furthering the HAS mission during the past year.

**Operations:** The Society derives operating and programmatic funding from four key sources including membership dues, generous gifts, product sales, and grants. Income from product sales during 2008 remained strong, while membership dues dipped slightly. There was a roughly 33% drop in grant income, which led to a 21% decline in total annual income over the previous year. Although annual expenses also declined by about 4%, they exceeded annual income by 16%. However, the 2008 accounting does not yet include a substantial legacy gift from the estate of Mrs. Blanch A. Pedley, which currently is in probate.

**Committees:** HAS oversees the operation of committees on Conservation, Education, *'Elepaio*, Field Trips, Fundraising, Grants & Scholarships, Membership, Programs, Publications, and Website. HAS members are welcome to participate as members or chairs of any of these committees.

**Freeman Seabird Preserve:** In September 2007, HAS assumed ownership of a one-acre coastal property at Black Point on O'ahu, thanks to the incredibly generous gift of Mr. and Mrs. Houghton Freeman (*'Elepaio* 67:8, November 2007). The Freeman Seabird Preserve is home to a colony of wedge-tailed shearwaters (*'ua'u kani*, *Puffinus pacificus*). The preservation and restoration of this unique native ecosystem will help this state- and federally-protected species at a time when habitat and other resources are becoming scarce. The seabirds nest during the months between March and November, leaving December, January and February available for major habitat restoration work. During the past year, Board members and volunteers made numerous service visits to the Preserve, clearing overgrown and invasive vegetation, opening up blocked Shearwater burrows, cleaning and removing litter and trash, establishing and servicing predator (rats/mice/mongoose) control bait stations, and creating barriers to prevent Shearwaters from burrowing under neighboring fences. In October of 2008, a Shearwater population survey was conducted with the assistance of Dr. Holly Friefeld, Dr. David Hyrenbach, and graduate students from Hawai'i Pacific University to provide a baseline for continuing studies of the bird population in the Preserve. No evidence of mammal predation on Shearwaters was noted, but several un-hatched eggs were found during the survey. Forty-seven downy chicks were counted in active nesting sites, and about 200 past or potential nesting sites were

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identified. HAS also conducted two shearwater education site visits during the summer specifically tailored for young students, including a Girl Scout troop and an elementary school field trip. In addition, landscaping for the upper, flat portion of the parcel was initiated, and several improvements now are underway, including repair and extension of the rock wall adjacent to the road and installation of a new gate. Generous gifts have helped considerably in the early phases of habitat restoration, and a concerted fundraising effort to continue the work will be undertaken during 2009. As well, HAS plans to create graduate student research opportunities at the preserve to monitor and study seabird population dynamics and nesting behavior and success. The preserve offers excellent possibilities for establishing remote, web-based observation platforms for observing nesting and rearing activities, and records collected by these and other methods would form the basis for further educational products and presentations.

**Educational Outreach:** The 'Elepaio is the central component of the Society's education and outreach efforts, and HAS published nine issues of the journal 'Elepaio in 2008. This publication is mailed to all HAS members, subscribers such as libraries, and a number of complimentary recipients such as exchange institutions and other conservation organizations. Distribution of the 'Elepaio spans the U.S. and includes international recipients. Volume 68 included seven peer-reviewed scientific articles, six of which first were published in 'Elepaio. A special acknowledgement is due to Ron Walker for coordinating with scientists to elevate the profile of 'Elepaio as an important voice of ornithological literature. Various species were discussed in these articles, including Maui's Mitred Parakeets (*Aratinga mitrata* – Vol. 68: 1 & 2), Pueo (*Asio Flammeus sandwichensis* – Vol. 68: 3), Palila (*Loxioides bailleui* – Vol. 68: 4), Red-tailed, Red-billed, and White Tropicbirds (*Phaethon rubricauda*, *P. aethereus*, *P. lepturus* – Vol. 68: 6), Newell's Shearwater (*Puffinus auricularis newelli* – Vol. 68: 8), and Hawai'i 'Amakihi (*Hemignathus virens* – Vol. 68: 9). In addition, Dr. Eric Vanderwerf provided a thoughtful discussion entitled, *Important Bird Areas in the Hawaiian Islands*, which was published in the October issue ('Elepaio Vol. 68: 7.) News

stories, book reviews, historic literature, program reports, event listings, announcements, and other important news of the Society also appeared in Volume 68 of the 'Elepaio.

Operating under the auspices of the Society, The Pacific Fisheries Coalition (PFC) program has produced a variety of reports, publications, brochures, posters, and curriculum materials on marine resources in Hawai'i and the Pacific. These products are distributed to the general public, students, fishermen, resource managers and policy makers throughout the U.S. and internationally. Additional information may be found in the Pacific Fisheries Coalition report appearing in this issue of 'Elepaio.

The HAS website, [www.hawaii.audubon.com](http://www.hawaii.audubon.com), is a comprehensive source for up-to-date information relating to HAS and its mission. It provides access to electronic versions of the 'Elepaio, field trip and program meeting announcements, grant and scholarship application guidelines and deadline reminders, information on projects and activities, HAS membership information, an online store of HAS products, extensive information on birding in Hawai'i, a gallery of beautiful bird photos, and links to a number of related organizations and issues.

**Conservation and Advocacy:** In close cooperation with the National Audubon Society (NAS), HAS reached out to the scientific community in Hawai'i and on the mainland in collaborative efforts to provide comments to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on their proposed rule listing 48 species on Kaua'i as endangered and designating critical habitat for their recovery. As President of HAS, I drafted, circulated, and finalized a joint comment letter responding to the agency's request published in the Federal Record. The HAS letter, bearing signatures of myself, as well as the Assistant General Counsel and the Director of Bird Conservation of the National Audubon Society was submitted and is part of the official record now under review by the FWS. I am particularly grateful to all participating reviewers, and to Greer Goldman and Greg Butcher of NAS for their efforts and consultation, and I look forward to increased collaborative activities with NAS in support of natural resources conservation in Hawai'i.

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HAS is an active member of a number of partnerships, coalitions, boards, advisory groups, and committees working to protect, conserve and restore Hawaii's resources. Some of these groups include the Ho'olaulima ia Kawainui, the Alien Aquatic Organism Task Force, the multi-partner Marine Debris Cleanup Group, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council, the Hawai'i Conservation Alliance steering committee, and the Marine Fish Conservation Network Advisory Board. The HAS Conservation Committee, working to prevent threats to native wildlife and habitats, reviewed and submitted comments on a variety of proposed projects and activities statewide. Board members actively screened 33 documents (news releases, permit notices, draft and final EISs for issues relevant to HAS conservation concerns, assuring accuracy and comprehensiveness of the presentations. Two official comment letters in addition to that noted above were prepared and approved by the Board of Directors during 2008, one to the Chair of the Natural Areas Reserve Steering Committee in favor of addition to the Hono O Na Pali Natural Area Reserve on Kaua'i, and one to the Board of Land and Natural Resources supporting the Poamoho Natural Area Reserve on O'ahu. In addition, Directors and members represented HAS at conferences, workshops, hearings, and on several steering committees, teams, and task forces, including an educational booth that showcased a display and materials related to conservation of the Palila at the 2008 Hawai'i Conservation Conference. The First Vice President represented HAS by setting up an informational table at the Green Fair at the Church of the Crossroads on O'ahu in December.

During the 2008 State legislative session, HAS Legislative Analyst George Massengale tracked over three-dozen conservation and environmental bills, and actively supported those most closely related to the HAS mission, including the issues of global warming, invasive species, Kawainui marsh, and outdoor lighting. HAS advocacy activities fell well within the legally prescribed limitations for 501(c)3 organizations.

**Educational Programs:** The Society hosted six bi-monthly program meetings at UH Mānoa's St. John Botany building in 2008. These meetings are sponsored by the UHM Biology Program and are open to all HAS members and the general public at no cost and include informational presentations on a wide variety of topics related to the mission of HAS. Presenters and subjects covered in 2008 included the following: the Ka'ena Point Ecosystem Restoration Project, presented by Pauline Sato; Dr. Cynthia Hunter's presentation on the Year of The Reef: Impacts of Alien Algae; Shearwaters: Natural History and the Black Point Colony, by Dr. Holly Freifeld; a discussion on O'ahu's Offshore Islets with Jaap and Heather Eijzenga; Declining Palila Populations, by Dr. Paul Banko; and Norma Bustos' presentation on the Impact of Feral Cats. In addition, an annual membership meeting was held along with a bird identification lecture by HAS Second Vice President Ron Walker and Board member Dr. Phil Bruner in preparation for the Christmas Bird Count in December.

**Field Excursions and Service Activities:** During 2008, the Society offered thirteen field outings, as well as cooperative wildlife surveys and field service opportunities. O'ahu field trips included three tours of Paiko Lagoon, Bird viewing at Ho'omaluhia Botanical Gardens and Hilton Hawaiian Village, wildlife viewing at James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge, a wetlands walking tour, a whale watch cruise, behind-the-scenes tours of the Honolulu Zoo and Coconut Island, and a tour of John Harrison's renewable energy house. On the Big Island, HAS offered a hike along the Pu'u 'Ō'ō trail off the Saddle Road with Les Chibana and a tour of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park with Carol Bebb. The Society hopes to further expand its neighbor island presence in 2009.

In December 2008 and January 2009, the annual Christmas Bird Counts were held at Honolulu and Waipi'o on O'ahu, Waimea and Kapa'a on Kaua'i, 'Īao Valley and Pu'u o Kāka'e on Maui, Kualapu'u on Moloka'i, and Volcano and North Kona on Hawai'i Island. HAS volunteers served as organizers and team leaders of the counts, which operated in conjunction with Christmas Bird Counts at thousands of locations in the U.S. and around the world.

HAS also promoted participation in the Great Backyard Bird Count, which is held each February as a joint project of the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Both bird counts serve to monitor changes in the size and health of bird populations. As well, HAS promoted annual Humpback Whale ocean counts in January, February and March on the Big Island, O'ahu and Kaua'i.

**Volunteer Activities:** Members contributed to the Society by volunteering their time during service trips, staffing the HAS booth at fairs, and helping in the office. Directors, members, and helpful students and friends spent countless hours over the course of the year attending such tasks as clean-up of the Black Point property, stuffing envelopes and assembling the annual membership appeal, and organizing and staging the Annual Awards Dinner. Reflecting on the accomplishments of the society as summarized in this report, it's important to note that volunteers have been directly involved in the majority of these wide-ranging activities.

**Awards:** At the 51st Hawai'i State Science and Engineering Fair, HAS awarded two prizes for outstanding student research relating to Hawaii's natural history. Lei'ohu Santos-Colburn, who is a sophomore at Kanu o Ka 'Āina Charter School on the island of Hawai'i, received the HAS Senior Division Research award for her project entitled "Working with Caddisflies". The HAS award for outstanding Junior Division Research relating to Hawaii's natural history went to a project submitted by Nicolyn Helen Charlot, an eighth grader at Volcano School of Arts and Sciences on the island of Hawai'i. Nicolyn's project entitled "Life on Lava: Influences over recolonization on a barren landscape" involved rigorous field work in the vicinity of Pu'u 'Ō'ō. (*Elepaio* 68:4, May 2008)

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Virginia Tice received the George C. Munro Environmental Law Award, which is given to the top environmental law student at the W. H. Richardson School of Law for the preceding school year.

In October, the Society held its fifteenth Annual Awards Dinner at Treetops Restaurant at Paradise Park in Mānoa. Four awards were presented to distinguished members of the conservation community. Hawai'i State Representative Cynthia Theilen received the President's Award for her years of dedicated pursuit of protections for Hawaii's environment. The Charles Dunn Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Dr. Fern Duvall, wildlife biologist with the Hawai'i State Department of Land and Natural Resources, in recognition of his constant dedication to habitat conservation and protection of native wildlife. Arlene Dibben-Young received the Conservation Award for her tireless, hands-on work restoring native wetlands on Moloka'i, as well as her volunteer work educating Moloka'i school children about Hawaii's birds. The Environmental Education Award went to Mālama Hawai'i in recognition of their vital service as a networking organization promoting public awareness about environmental issues in Hawai'i, including the launch of the 2008 International Year of the Reef Campaign.

**Grants and Scholarships:** In 2008, Hawaii Audubon Society awarded a \$500 grant to Richard Pender of the UH Mānoa Botany Department for a project entitled: "Are Honeycreepers still pollinating species of *Clermontia* (Campanulaceae), a genus of Hawaiian lobeliad?" (*'Elepaio* 68:9) Two other UH students, Miyako Warrington and Liba Pejchar Goldstein, likewise were recipients of \$500 research grants in 2008.

Michael Koontz was awarded the Rose Schuster Taylor full tuition scholarship to the University of Hawai'i at Hilo for the 2008-2009 school year.

**Other HAS Activities:** Hundreds of HAS members and other interested individuals have signed up for the HAS "Events Email List" through which recipients are sent HAS announcements via email. In addition to receiving timely information on field trips, program meetings, volunteer opportunities, and other announcements, participants can become a part of HAS's "Birder's Network" which connects local and visiting birders, giving them the opportunity to arrange excursions outside of the Society's scheduled field activities.

HAS also promoted participation in the 2008 annual Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest, a project of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In addition, viewers were given an opportunity to learn about important conservation activities through weekly Thursday night programming on 'Ōlelo Community TV produced by HAS. Examples of such programming included the March presentation on wetland resource management when a special show aired on Kawainui Marsh. The program explained how the area of Kawainui was used in the past and how volunteer and community groups are helping to mālama the marsh in order to restore it as a properly functioning ecosystem. (*'Elepaio* 68:2)

**Products:** *Hawaii's Birds* is a definitive, full color, soft cover field guide published by HAS. Now in its sixth edition, this field guide serves as an important educational tool for thousands of residents, visitors, educators, and decision makers. Other educational products produced by HAS include the companion cassette set *Voices of Hawaii's Birds*, the *Hidden Treasures of O'ahu* map featuring locations and detailed information on sites for exploring nature and ancient Hawaiian culture, Hawaii's rare and endangered birds greeting cards with artwork by Patrick Ching, current checklists of the Birds of Hawai'i, Micronesia, and the Mariana Islands, a field check card of Hawaii's birds, and *The Edge of Forever* poster, an art-quality, limited edition print featuring two endangered nēnē. HAS also offers several T-shirt designs, an embroidered patch featuring the 'elepaio, and polo shirts embroidered with the HAS logo. Sales proceeds go to support HAS efforts to protect and conserve native species and habitats in Hawai'i and the Pacific.

**Looking to the Future:** The HAS Officers, Directors, and other leaders gathered in January 2009 for the Annual Chapter Leaders' Retreat to discuss the state of HAS and how best to guide the organization in the coming year. We look forward to building capacity by expanding our membership and services through enhanced programs that meet the needs of the State and the community in addressing environmental issues and through efforts to increase the visibility and accessibility of our programs. We also hope to continue expanding educational opportunities, with a particular focus on reaching out to young people.

The Hawaiian Islands often are called the endangered species capital of the nation, drawing attention to the State's disproportionate share of both listed species in peril and historical extinctions. As noted earlier, many of the Society's activities serve to either directly support recovery efforts or to offer educational outreach to raise local and national awareness of endangered species issues. Through the programs and activities of HAS, the community has opportunities to become involved in some of the most pressing conservation issues of our time, including but not limited to ongoing efforts to control invasive species, the struggle to ensure the survival of Palila in the Big Island, and the challenge of bringing additional resources to bear on the recovery of the Hawaiian Monk Seal. Looking back on 70 years of continuous dedication by HAS members to solving environmental conservation challenges we face in Hawai'i, our commitment, expertise, and hard work have built an impressive record of accomplishment. Taking full advantage of the resourcefulness of our membership, as well as the incredible opportunities we have to pursue effective conservation at Black Point and elsewhere, we anticipate another year of exciting challenges and accomplishments as well as continued opportunities to build and expand conservation partnerships. On behalf of my fellow Officers and Directors, I sincerely thank each and every one of our members and supporters, and I look forward to effective and sustaining accomplishments in this, our 70<sup>th</sup> year of operations. ■

# Pacific Fisheries Coalition Annual Report 2008

During the past year the Pacific Fisheries Coalition (PFC), a project of the Hawaii Audubon Society, continued the collaborative marine conservation effort begun in 1998 to encourage the protection and responsible use of living marine resources and their habitats in Hawai'i and the Central Pacific. The project is directed by Linda Paul with advice from others. Independent contractors in 2008 included Ellyn Tong, the Outreach Coordinator, Laura Kloepper, the Ocean Awareness teacher, intern Naomi Arcand and numerous volunteers. The project received support from the PEW Environmental Group, the Marisla Foundation, the Harold K. L. Castle Foundation, the Hawai'i Community Foundation, the U.S. National Park Service, and others.

In 2008 the project had three major goals: 1) the development of a marine stewardship ethic in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students, 2) the protection of the Marine National Monument in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) and other threatened marine ecosystems in the Central Pacific, and 3) the promotion of responsible fisheries management and reduction of wasteful harvesting practices, especially shark finning.

**The Ocean Awareness Project.** The development of a curriculum to encourage a marine stewardship ethic in middle school students, begun by Laura Kloepper in 2007 with the advice and assistance of an expert advisory group, was completed in 2008. Laura created seven lesson plans that include 14 90-minute class sessions based on the Department of Education standards for the seventh grade. The lesson plans are augmented with videos created by Ellyn Tong and power point presentations created by Laura. Marine resource questions for a Paradise Pursuits Quiz-type exercise were incorporated into the curricula. We are now partnering with the state Department of Education (DOE) and NOAA Office of Marine Sanctuaries to test the curricula in the classroom, which will begin in 2009. For sixth graders, Ellyn created an activity booklet that teaches marine stewardship through a variety of games and other activities. It will also be available for sale to the public in the future to help finance PFC projects.

**Protection of the Marine National Monument in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and other threatened marine ecosystems in the Pacific.** In January Linda, William Aila, and Tim Johns, as NWHI Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Committee (RAC) officers, met with NOAA officials to work out the Draft Monument Management Plan comment process. On May 6 the RAC met to discuss the draft plan and begin preparing its recommendations. Also in May Linda attended the annual meeting of the chairs of the National Marine Sanctuaries Office Advisory Councils in Virginia and briefed them on the Monument's progress. The RAC met again in June to finish preparing its comments, which included the need for an advisory council to ensure continued public participation in the management of the NWHI. The RAC recommendations were submitted by letter to NOAA in July. In August Linda gave

oral and written comments to the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force at its meeting in Kailua Kona, urging the Task Force to take on the role of mediator between the co-trustees of the Monument to ensure that stake holder input will be incorporated into the ongoing management of the Monument. Linda also represents the RAC on the Multi-agency NWHI Clean-up Committee. In December the final Monument Management Plan was released to the public.

The World Heritage Site designation process for the NWHI, which was initiated by the PFC in 2005, also continued to move forward. In January the U.S. World Heritage Tentative List was announced with the NWHI as one of two initial nominations. The PFC sent in letters of support, alerted other NGOs to do the same, and widely distributed copies of our full color *NWHI A World Treasure* report. In January 2009 United States sent to the United Nations its nomination of the NWHI for inscription on the World Heritage List. The final decision is yet to come.

In 2008 the PFC also advocated for the protection of other large marine ecosystems in the Central Pacific, including the Pacific Remote Island Areas, the deep sea trench in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Rose Atoll in American Samoa. In January 2009 George W. Bush announced the creation of three new marine national monuments to protect all of those areas.

**Promotion of marine resource conservation and responsible fishing practices.** In 2008 the PFC continued to monitor meetings of Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, its committees and "Fishers Forums". Linda continued to serve on the national Marine Fish Conservation Network (MFCN) Advisory Board, was elected co-chair in 2008 and serves on the MFCN Executive Committee and Board of Directors. The MFCN is now focusing on implementation of the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act as amended in January 2007.

Linda and Ellyn continued their work to curb the global shark fin trade. In April Linda distributed copies of our full color 20-page report *The Global Shark Fin Trade: Destroying Biodiversity and Ecosystems* at the 23rd meeting of the CITES Animals Committee (AC) along with some new fact sheets. The PFC is continuing to collect information on the movement of shark fins through Honolulu under foreign flag protection and works with the U.S. Shark NGO Group regarding amendments to the 2000 Shark Finning Prohibition Act. Linda is also co-chair of the Species Survival Network (SSN) Fish Working Group and participated in the CITES Non-detriment Findings Workshop fish working group in November.

Linda, as a 10 year member of the U.S. delegation to the Central & Western Pacific Fisheries Commission and its Technical and Compliance Committee, continued to work on stock conservation and bycatch mitigation measures for sharks, seabirds and turtles. Copies of our illustrated reports

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*Investigation of the Cultural Importance of Sharks to the Indigenous People in the Pacific* and *The Global Shark Fin Trade* were distributed to members of the Commission. In December the Commission passed more protective Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) for big eye and yellow fin tuna, sharks, and sea turtles, as well as a CMM on high seas driftnet fishing. Linda was also selected in 2008 to serve as one of 20 U.S. Advisory Committee members on matters coming before the Commission.

### Education and Outreach

The PFC continued to produce its weekly program "Hawaii's Ocean Resources" on 'Ōlelo Community Television on Thursday nights at 8 pm on channel 53. Video footage is shot at a variety of marine education forums and edited by Elyn for broadcasting and DVD creation. In October we received an additional grant for video work from the Hawai'i Community Foundation to augment the Castle grant to expand the distribution of marine stewardship DVDs to Wai'anae schools. We also continued to maintain our website: [www.pacfish.org](http://www.pacfish.org).

PFC educational materials were distributed at the Year of the Reef event at the Hawai'i State Capital in January, the RAMSAR International Wetlands Day celebration in Kawainui Marsh in February, the CITES Animals Committee meeting in April, the International Coral Reef Symposium and the Hawai'i Conservation Conference in July, the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force in Kailua-Kona in August, meetings of the WCPFC in October and December, by the Polynesian Voyaging Society, and in classrooms, community meetings, and to fishermen everywhere.

In June Elyn completed a new full color, 2'x3' poster that teaches the importance of protecting large, reproductively-valuable females (fish and invertebrates) to ensure sustainable fishing stocks. The poster is being distributed not only at meetings and events, but also by several government agencies. Eventually it will be in every classroom, just like our "Size-At-First-Reproduction" poster. Kamehameha Schools distributed 800 of our posters. The PFC received a grant from the U.S. National Park Service to pay for a large print run of this poster. Three hundred copies of our 2002 *Importance of Refuges for Reef Fish Replenishment in Hawaii* were also sent to Guam. After printing, reprinting, and distributing thousands of copies of this publication, it will be updated in 2009. ■

### Correction

Typographical errors appeared in the two figures that accompanied the article entitled "Status of 'Akiapōlā'au at Kapāpala, Hawai'i" that was published in the February 2009 *'Elepaio* issue, Volume 69:1. The figures have been corrected and the accurate version is now available online at [www.hawaii.audubon.com](http://www.hawaii.audubon.com). Our apologies to the authors for this oversight.

## The Hawaii Audubon Society is 70 YEARS OLD!

In March 1939, the first meeting of the Honolulu Audubon Society was held in the city. In May of that year, a constitution and by-laws were adopted and officers were elected. This was the result of a letter in January 1939 to a local newspaper by Charles M. Dunn "...asking all bird lovers to meet at the Library of Hawai'i with a view to forming a branch of the National Association of Audubon Societies". In November of 1939, the first issue of the 'Elepaio, "Official Organ of the Honolulu Audubon Society" was published as Volume 1, Number 1, November, 1939 to May, 1941.

After 7 years, the Board of Directors changed the name of the organization to the Hawaii Audubon Society (HAS) "... to designate more clearly the scope of our interests" (The 'Elepaio, Vol. 7, No. 1, July, 1946). They hoped that, with the name change, the organization would draw members from all the islands of the State who were interested in wildlife conservation.

In 1939, there were 33 members of the HAS. In 1961, we listed 118 members and in 2008 we numbered 1,126 members from Hawai'i, the Mainland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, Hong Kong and Tanzania.

Over the years, Society highlights have included:

- Publishing the first "Field Check Card of Hawai'i Birds" (1954).
- Publishing the first edition of "Hawaii's Birds" (1967).
- Changing the motto from "The Better Protection of Wildlife in Hawai'i" to "For the Protection of Hawai'i's Native Wildlife" (1975).
- Becoming a chapter of the National Audubon Society (NAS) (1977).
- Opening a joint office of the HAS and NAS in Honolulu (1989).
- Creating "Paradise Pursuits", a televised environmental education game show for high school students (1992).
- Hiring the first office staff person (1995).
- Establishing the "Western Pacific Fisheries Coalition", a collaboration between conservationists and fishermen (1999).
- Co-sponsoring the first Hawai'i Aquatics Conference (2001).
- Publishing the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of "Hawaii's Birds" (2005).
- Accepting a gift of the one-acre "Freeman Seabird Preserve" at Black Point on Oahu (2007).

In 2009, HAS will continue to monitor and influence State and Federal legislative actions, remain proactive in addressing the many conservation issues in Hawai'i, and seek funding for the improvement and management of the Freeman Seabird Preserve.

# FULL MOON Seabird Adventures

**Thursday, April 9 & Friday, May 8  
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

Please join the Hawaii Audubon Society for an evening sail off the beautiful south shore of O'ahu to view Hawaii's pelagic seabirds in action. We plan to sail to waters off Black Point, O'ahu for a thrilling opportunity to see large numbers of wedge-tailed shearwaters return from foraging at sea to their breeding colony at the Society's Freeman Seabird Preserve. Boobies, noddies, white terns, great frigatebirds, and pomarine jaegers may also be observed in graceful flight over the gleaming ocean.

We will be sailing with Captain Gaelyn Penberthy on a 40-foot catamaran departing from Kewalo Basin. A box lunch will be provided and participants should plan for rough water.

Price is \$100 per person with net proceeds dedicated to support habitat restoration at the Freeman Seabird Preserve and tax deductible. Space is limited to 30 people. Please contact Hawaii Audubon Society at (808) 528-1432 or [hiaudsoc@pixi.com](mailto:hiaudsoc@pixi.com) to make reservations.

## Hawaii Audubon Society Research Grant Available Applications Due April 1, 2009

Hawaii Audubon Society offers two grants per year for research in Hawaiian or Pacific natural history. Awards are oriented toward small-scale projects and generally do not exceed \$500. Grants are reviewed semiannually. Deadlines are April 1 for summer/fall grants and October 1 for winter/spring grants. Application guidelines are available at [www.hawaiiadubon.com](http://www.hawaiiadubon.com) under "chapter news" or by contacting the HAS office at (808) 528-1432 or [hiaudsoc@pixi.com](mailto:hiaudsoc@pixi.com).

## HAS Undergraduate Tuition Scholarship Available for the 2009-2010 School Year Applications Due May 1, 2009

Through a trust set up by Yao Shen in memory of Rose Schuster Taylor, the Hawaii Audubon Society annually awards a full tuition scholarship to an undergraduate student in the University of Hawai'i system. Applicants must be majoring in a field related to Hawaiian or Pacific natural history. Applications for the 2009-2010 school year are due on May 1, 2009. Application guidelines are available at [www.hawaiiadubon.com](http://www.hawaiiadubon.com) under "chapter news" or by contacting the HAS office at (808) 528-1432 or [hiaudsoc@pixi.com](mailto:hiaudsoc@pixi.com).

### Membership in Hawaii Audubon Society 2009

Regular Member: .....	\$ 25.00	Foreign Membership (Airmail)	
Student Member:.....	\$ 15.00	Mexico.....	\$ 26.00
Supporting Member:.....	\$100.00	Canada.....	\$ 28.00
Family Membership.....	\$40.00	All other countries .....	\$ 33.00

*These are annual membership dues, valid January 1 through December 31.*

*Donations are tax deductible and gratefully accepted.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Country, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Membership \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

New Membership  Renewal

Please make checks payable to Hawaii Audubon Society and mail to us at 850 Richards St., #505, Honolulu, HI 96813.

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES.



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## Calendar of Events

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**Wednesday, April 1**  
**HAS Research Grant Applications Due**  
*See page 15*

**Thursday, April 9**  
**Full Moon Seabird Adventures**  
*See page 15*

**Monday, April 20**  
**HAS Program Meeting**  
*Announcement in next issue*

**Friday, May 1**  
**HAS Scholarship Applications Due**  
*See page 15*

**Friday, May 8**  
**Full Moon Seabird Adventures**  
*See page 15*

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