



Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens

The Bodhi Leaf

FALL 2011

180 N. Vineyard Boulevard • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817 • Phone 537-1708

FALL PLANT SALE

Saturday, October 15

9 am to 2 pm

Foster Botanical Garden

The Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens is proud to present its one and only Fall Plant Sale, at the remarkable Foster Garden. Admission to the garden is free that day, and tours will be offered. Stop by to enjoy the gorgeous scenery, and buy some special plants.

There will be a large selection of rare and unusual plants, many not found in garden stores.

We'll have plants suitable for both indoors and outdoors, including:

Native Hawaiian plants, different colored Ohia, the ever-popular heliconia, fragrant gingers, orchids, ti plants, drought-tolerant succulents, cacti, colorful bromeliads, tillandsia, lotus, terrariums, air plants, ceramic planters, and anthuriums (30+ varieties from mini to large Obake, some new varieties)

Wrightia antidysenterica

by Dennis Kim, Native Plant Source

During my 45 years in the landscape industry I have always searched for plants that fulfill the criteria of a perfect plant. It has been a trying task and although I have my favorites there is one that I have recently found and tested which excites me, *Wrightia antidysenterica*. The common name is Snowflake, Milky Way or Artic Snow because of its showy brilliant white flowers that bloom all year round that are enhanced by its' dark green foliage.

It is a small and compact semi-deciduous shrub, reaching 6 feet in height, with a spread of about 3 feet. A fast grower it prefers bright light to full sun and well-drained, loamy soil. It is a perfect container plant. If planted in the ground use as an accent plant or hedge that will brighten any garden with starry white blooms that resemble snowflakes or little stars from afar. *Wrightia antidysenterica* is quite a low maintenance plant.



As long as it receives sufficient bright light or sunshine, regular watering and occasional fertilizing, it will reward you with profuse blooming and luscious green foliage. It requires minimal pruning and is least bothered by pests and diseases!

(Although Dennis specializes in Native Hawaiian species this is not a native plant. He will be bringing many native species to the sale including a very unusual **weeping form** of Ohia lehua that has a beautiful peachy orange flower.)

New Visions

The recent Lion Dance Journey which was a delight - visually as dance theater and cultural history - also brought us into a new era. Gary Cabato, the new Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, spent the evening with us volunteers at Foster Garden. We all thoroughly enjoyed our time with this amiable giant intellect whose charm and affability imbued us with a renewed energy and enthusiasm for the future of our city's botanical gardens.

We are looking forward to a new creative collaboration with staff and the potential for exciting and original events and activities in the gardens.

Plans for the October Plant Sale are well under way under the able direction of Dave Kumasaka, Ray Higa, Joette Wheelon and our executive assistant, Kathy Tosh. We are still looking for dedicated volunteers for this iconic event and we urge all of you, our Friends, to join us as volunteers, passionate shoppers or both.

And don't forget as members it is up to you to share your passion for our beautiful gardens and what they mean to all of us individually and as residents of this paradise. We all want to keep our island clean, green and gorgeous as well as sustainable. Spread the word, tell your friends, urge them to visit all of our gardens to experience the unique differences that altitude, topography and micro climates provide. It is truly amazing how a visit to each of our five gardens is like visiting a new country.

Check our list of classes and tours to explore all the mysteries to be found in Foster, Wahiawa, Liliuokalani, Koko Crater and Ho'omaluhia Gardens. Check out our website. Post notes on Facebook and Twitter. Get the word out, hug a tree, blow kisses to the flowers, don't waste a minute...enjoy our paradise!

Sincerely, Grace Dixon

Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens



Gary Cabato, Grace Dixon, and Councilman Ernie Martin at Friends' 49th Annual Meeting, with City Proclamation congratulating the Friends on 50 years of support for the botanical gardens.

New Board Members

At the March Annual Meeting the Friends' Board of Trustees welcomed three new members – Rom Duran, Bill Follmer and Bob Lormand. These three gentlemen have loads of practical experience, bright ideas, enthusiasm and love of the botanical gardens.

We feel very fortunate to have these new Trustees and look forward to their input.



Artwork in the Gardens

Whenever I visit other botanical gardens and arboreta, I not only appreciate the diverse and amazing plant collections, but also take great pleasure in the artwork exhibited throughout the grounds. Works of art range from light-bending, elegant Chihuly glasswork floating in water features or hanging from ceilings, to intricate metal-work benches shaped like butterflies. There are whimsical sculptures made of dried vines and plant parts, and larger-than-life but realistic replicas of flowers and insects. The imagination displayed through artwork in the gardens is endless. Appropriate and thoughtful artwork in the garden stimulates the senses and enhances the ambience of a garden. They can be functional, aesthetic, and also educational.

Foster Botanical Garden is home to a number of fine works of art, primarily sculptures. Have you noticed the stylized sculpture of the "Tree" just inside the entrance to this garden? This steel and concrete sculpture by artist Charles Watson was originally in front of the Honolulu Advertiser building on Kapiolani Boulevard, then donated to the City, and moved to the garden in 2007.



Another work of art, the Hiroshima Monument, was carved by artist Yoshinari Kochi out of granite quarried in the vicinity of Hiroshima, Japan. It commemorates the 75th anniversary of the first Japanese immigrants to arrive in Hawaii. The "C" form represents "century" and is supported by a large pillar. There is a small perforation made on the base of the "C" to symbolize 75 years instead of 100 years. This sculpture was first placed in "Waikiki Park", now Kapiolani Park, to commemorate the one year anniversary of Hawaii Statehood, on August 21, 1960. It was moved to Foster Garden a year later. The Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts (MOCA) oversees regular maintenance of artwork formally accepted (accessioned) by the City.

One example of artwork which does not come under the auspices of MOCA is the collection of ballast stones displayed at the front entrance of Foster Garden. Long saved and stored at the garden, these rectangular granite stones are an important part of Hawaii's history. Between 1790 and 1840, a brisk trading business involving the export of native Hawaiian sandalwood was conducted. The fragrant wood was sent to China, where it was used primarily to make small furniture and temple incense. Cargo on the ship's return trip to Hawaii was lightweight in comparison, being composed primarily of silk cloth, tea, and money. To stabilize the ships, the granite stones were added: ballast stones.

Other gifts of art at Foster Botanical Garden include the Chilkat Indian totem pole, Sandwich Isles sculpture, bronze statue of the Buddha, Beautiful Butterflies sculpture, and numerous stone lanterns, which add to the beauty and charm of the garden.

Come and enjoy a full garden experience!

Winnie Singeo, Director
Honolulu Botanical Gardens





Address Service Requested



Education Program Update

Friends' members will soon be receiving a detailed listing of our Fall/Spring Education/Tour Program – but we wanted to give you a preview of the good things to come:

- Late October – Hydroponics Class
- Early December – Christmas Wreath Making Class with green material
- Mid December – Sex and the Garden (rated PG 13) “How Plants Do It” with Dr. Richard Criley
- Late March – Three-day Garden and Native Plant Tour of the Big Island
- Two ten-day tours to Kyoto - the Traditional Gardens of Kyoto during the cherry blossom festival and again in the fall for the Chrysanthemum/Maple shows
- May - a ten-day tour of “The Best of the California Coast” will visit top garden places from Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, Hearst Castle San Simeon, Monterey and on up to Filoli, San Francisco and Muir Woods
- The wonderful 17-day Sri Lanka Tour will be rescheduled for October 2012

We need your KOKUA! For our Dec.3rd, Christmas Wreath class we'll need large quantities of Christmas Berries and Bixa pods. If you can help us please let Kathy (537-1708) know of your gift and cut the pieces on Dec.1st and box them. We have volunteers who will pick them up and say “MAHALO”

