



Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens

The Bodhi Leaf

WINTER 2012

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

POET PLANTS PALM



Photo: Alex Kufel

William S. Merwin & Winnie Singeo

William S. Merwin, Poet Laureate from 2010 to 2011, honored the gardens during a tree planting ceremony on November 2, in Foster Garden. The informal gathering of thirty prominent garden oriented invitees was welcomed by Honolulu Botanical Gardens Director Winnie Singeo. Several special attendees were recognized and former Director Paul Weissich was called upon to introduce our guest. Weissich and Merwin are long-time friends. Merwin spoke briefly of the need for greater conservation of native Hawaiian species and habitat and then attended to the planting of a very rare, endemic loulu palm, *Pritchardia Schattaueri*. It is the tallest of all the loulu. Only twelve plants are known in the wild in south Kona. Perhaps it is the loulu laureate of the Plant Kingdom. Director Singeo then invited everyone to enjoy the delicious refreshments,

provided by Karen and Leland Miyano. In the meanwhile a heavy shower had passed overhead. Although all the attendees and our special guest had become quite wet it did nothing to dampen the pleasure of the occasion. William S. Merwin was whisked off to the parking lot by a staff operated, roofed Cushman. The smile on his face seemed to reflect great pleasure. It stopped raining and a brilliant sun came out. It was a fine occasion.

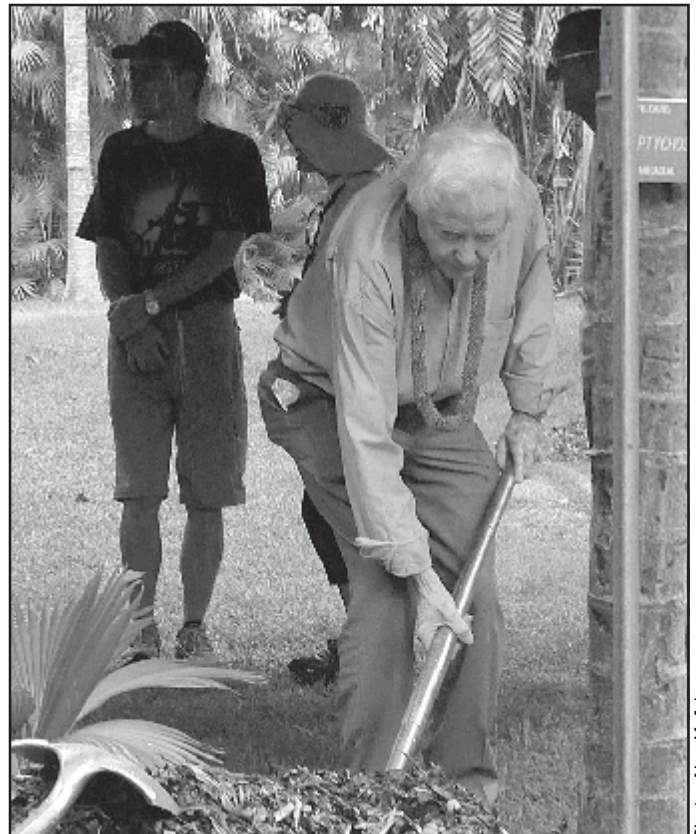


Photo: Alex Kufel

William S. Merwin planting palm

President's Message

Gung Hee Fat Choy. This is definitely my year as I was born in the year of the dragon and it is also auspicious for everyone...so I look forward to a year of positive energy, creativity and an unusually active year. I think this will prove true for our gardens.

In April we co-sponsor an event with the City. High Tea in the grand old British Style. This event will take place from 4 to 6 pm, in the Diabutsu Terrace. I think this is a first and I am looking forward to it. Reservations accompanied by a check or credit card will be required so watch for further announcements as invitations will be limited.

We are also interested in some kind of calendar or newsletter that notes when certain trees or shrubs are in bloom, what new plant collection in which gardens we ought to view and in general a more intense interest in our plant collections. We want to encourage our members and the public at large to be much more involved with knowing about our gardens and to share with us their favorite trees, plants or even certain wonderful nooks where one could just curl up with a book and enjoy the gentle breeze and the solitude of a lovely garden. Foster Garden is the only garden that requires an admission but it is free to members of the Friends. All the other gardens are free, and all are wonderful havens to get away from the busy world. That is what gardens are for and these spacious islands of green are a precious resource and offer beauty and release from stress. In our hectic, crowded, often ugly world these gardens are beauty and free to everyone.

Don't forget to check your calendar for the annual meeting on March 24, Brunch at the Waioli Tea Room.

Sincerely, Grace Dixon
Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens



Waioli Tea Room

Friends' Annual Meeting



Good Fun & Good Friends

Were you one of the lucky attendees at last year's Annual Meeting? If so you'll remember what a great time we had ... wonderful ambience, delicious breakfast buffet, good fun with friends (you can't beat plant people). Because we received such positive feedback we've decided to do it again ... at the Waioli Tea Room, that is. In gorgeous and green Manoa Valley.

Please join us. Saturday, March 24, from 9:30 am to 12 noon. If you're a Friends member you will be receiving an invitation soon. We plan on having a terrific time and hope to see you there.

from the Director's Desk

The New Year started off on a positive note with the much-awaited and welcome addition of three new staff members. Justin Rickard is the new supervisor at Foster Botanical Garden (FBG). Nathaniel Valero joined the staff at FBG as a nursery worker. Brian Mizoshiri joined the staff at Wahiawa Botanical Garden as a nursery worker.

The Honolulu Botanical Gardens is comprised of five garden sites: Foster, Lili'uokalani, Wahiawa, Ho'omaluhia and Koko Crater Botanical Gardens, with a total area of about 650 acres. Every one of the 16 grounds personnel, and three garden supervisors, is needed to skillfully care for and maintain the thousands of significant accessioned plants in the HBG's extensive plant collections.

In addition to plant care involving propagation, planting, transplanting, soil fertility, and disease control, grounds personnel maintain the expansive surrounding grounds, trails and walkways, and miles and miles of irrigation systems. They also monitor and maintain the nursery areas, garden facilities and costly equipment. Grounds staffs are the backbone of plant care at the HBG, but the job is not just about manual labor. It takes staff members that are knowledgeable and skilled, problem-solvers, and conscientious, to sustain the gardens at a high standard of horticulture.

We welcome our new staff members,
- we have a lot of work to do!

Winnie Singeo, Director
Honolulu Botanical Gardens



Justin Rickard



Nathaniel Valero



Brian Mizoshiro

Year-End Donations

The Board of Trustees of the Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens would like to thank the following for their generous response to our year-end appeal. Mahalo!

Milo (\$1 – 99)

Anonymous (2)
LeBurta Atherton
Jeremy Bush
Gerry Ching
Jean Culbertson
Joan & Joe Farrell
Helen Furukawa
Barbara Green
Donald & Shirley Hasenyager
Lani Hearn
Janet Henderson
Ray Higa
Kenneth & Mary Kaneshiro
Carol Kim
Allison Lee-Takamine
Anne MacArthur
Robert Midkiff
Margaret Mortz

Elsie Nakasone
Shigeki Nii
Jenny Nisgumura
Kathy Payne
James Penoff, MD.
Scott Rolles
Lois Taylor Clarke
Mitsue Stout
Bubba Walker

Kukui (\$100 – 499)

Anonymous (2)
Yuklin Aluli
Jack Baumer
Mr. & Mrs. James Campbell
Cleo K.H. Chun
Derral Herbst
Jay & Ann Kadowaki
Elizabeth A. Keller

Mary King
Mary Jane Lee
Don & Pamela Lichty
Robert Pedigo
Jean Rolles
Emmy Seymour
Mrs Allen Stack
Sunshine Landscape Co., Inc.
Vivian Tamanaha
Barbara Tilley
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Westervelt
Thomas Witten
Pat Wong (In Memory of Eiko Uyehara)
Sharon Rei Yamada

Koa (\$500 – 999)

Dr. Robert & Adelaide Kistner
Paul Weissich and Associates, Inc.

Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens



180 N. Vineyard Boulevard • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
friendsofhonolulubotanicalgardens.com

Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 1287
Honolulu, Hawaii

Address Service Requested



A SPECIAL FRIEND

The Friends is extremely fortunate to have among its benefactors the John R. Halligan Charitable Fund. We thought our members might like to know a little about this charitable organization.

John R. Halligan was a long-time resident of Chicago who fell in love with Honolulu and moved there permanently during the 1990s. During his lifetime, Mr. Halligan was an avid supporter of artistic, cultural and civic organizations located in both the Chicago and Honolulu geographic areas. Upon Mr. Halligan's death in 2001, a portion of his estate funded the John R. Halligan Charitable Fund. Since then, the Halligan Fund has strived to faithfully continue Mr. Halligan's legacy by providing financial support to museums, symphonies, operas, theaters, dance companies, historical societies, zoos, humane societies and similar organizations.

Besides providing annual support to the Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens, the Halligan Fund is actively involved with the Chicago Botanic Gardens and the Lincoln Park and Garfield Park Conservatories, both located in Chicago. The directors of the Halligan Fund believe that the Honolulu Botanical Gardens, as well as the three botanic-related institutions in Chicago, provide valuable opportunities to educate and stimulate all visitors, be they active practitioners or novices.

