Friends of D.T. Fleming Arboretum at Pu'u Mahoe

Winter 2009-2010

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An Arboretum for Hawai'i

The David Thomas Fleming Arboretum at Pu'u Mahoe is Hawaii's oldest and largest arboretum focused on preserving native Hawaiian plants. Planting the Arboretum began in 1952 inside the Pu'u Mahoe cinder cone on Maui's southern slopes of Ulupalakua, with the ambitious goal to preserve spectacular native Hawaiian plant species from the rich but dying forest of Auwahi. Pu'u Mahoe was a gift to D.T. Fleming from Ed Baldwin of Ulupalakua Ranch, as a reward for his securing and introducing a biocontrol insect for control of the invasive and destructive Pamakani weed that was taking over the grazing lands and harming livestock of Maui.

In 2002, the nonprofit *Friends of the D.T. Fleming Arboretum at Pu'u Mahoe,* was created to help carry on the original work of David Thomas Fleming. The Arboretum needed guidance and attention to be restored as a premier conservation resource for Maui and of all Hawaii, to provide a strong seed bank for the preservation of Maui's dry land forest plant species and to support emergent reforestation efforts.

Photo by Bob Bangerter- Seeds of the rare Po`ola growing in the Fleming Arboretum are carefully collected for propagation.

Today, the Arboretum is a statewide seed bank and a unique dry land plant recovery reserve protecting and perpetuating rare dry land species for the restoration of native habitat and dry land watershed on the southern slopes of Haleakala. The D.T. Fleming Arboretum at Pu'u Mahoe currently protects over 120 native Hawaiian plant species, 33 of which are rare or endangered.

FOFA encourages community involvement by sponsoring educational public outreach programs as propagation work-shops, volunteer training & field work, arboretum tours and public presentations. Educational programs allow visitors and kama'āina of all ages to see firsthand the commitment and necessity for preserving the native plants of Hawai'i. Conservation and educational projects at the Fleming Arboretum work to preserve and perpetuate Hawai'i's cultural and natural resources, providing a unique and enriching experience for the Hawaiian community, students and Hawai'i's visitors.

The Fleming Arboretum at Pu'u Mahoe is a small place with a very big goal. FOFA seeks to continue the important work and vision of David Thomas Fleming in an ever modernizing Maui and where Maui's dry land forests now need more attention and devotion than ever. It is a dream of conservation realized, with the hearts, minds and hands-on energy of many volunteers merging to make it real.

Dedicated to Preservation through Protection, Propagation & Distribution

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2009 Arboretum News Highlights

Please visit www.flemingarboretum.org to read more about Arboretum News of 2009

Kawehi Loque and Nick Harders volunteer for FOFA at the Kula Sustainability Fair in February.

A'la'a seed- FOFA actively distributes seed contributing to private and public native out-planting throughout Hawai`i.

Tim Kroessig & Kalani Matsumura of Lyon Arboretum on Oahu deliver Wiliwili seedlings for Arboretum expansion.

Employees of Lowes Hardware enjoy a day off together at Pu'u Mahoe, outside the work environment.

The Arboretum now includes plants of Old Hawai'i...as the Lokelani Rose and the Martha Foss Fleming Hibiscus.

Rev. Heather Mueller gives a blessing at Pu'u Mahoe.

Seedlings of `Ohe from the Fleming Arboretum help reforest the Kula Forest Reserve after the 2,300 acre fire in 2007.

Jupiter Nielson, a NHPS volunteer, performs proper mulching techniques around Arboretum trees.

The NRCS-USDA hold their annual 2009 conference at the Pu'u Mahoe cabin.

The Kaunoa Senior Hikers visit the Arboretum every year, hiking a total 4.4 miles.

Feral baby pigs trapped at Pu'u Mahoe in March find good homes.

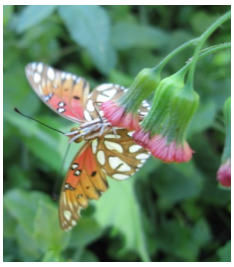
Cover photo- 'Ie'ie in Bloom at the Fleming Arboretum by Bob Bangerter

More Arboretum News Highlights

A Fleming Arboretum tour led by wildlife biologist Dr. Fern Duvall attracts 45 participants. *Photos by Tonia Baney.*

Claudia Coonen sets up her tent for the full moon campout on Artist Weekend, rising early to create art to inspire the preservation of Hawaii's native plants and wildlife.

The new Shed/Lua/ Shop facility at the Arboretum makes possible new programs with greater participation.



Hawaii's only two native butterflies thrive at Pu'u Mahoe-[left to right] the Blackburn and Kamehameha Butterfly. *Photos by John Shaw*

Christy Fell of Haleakala Waldorf School does a painting of a Maui Koa during Artist Weekend at Pu'u Mahoe.

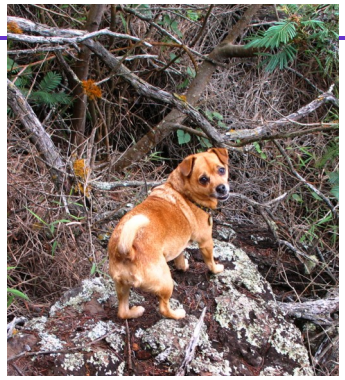
Maggi Sutro stands by her winning entry at the EMWP art show at Viewpoints Gallery. Her piece featured a collage of the conservation work by David Thomas Fleming.

A Pili Grass Race, demonstrating a phenomena of nature, delights "kids of all ages" at the Fleming Arboretum Booth - Ulupalakua Ca-res Event in September.

A four year grant with the USDA-NRCS makes possible conservation projects at Pu'u Mahoe- clearing invasive trees, fencing, upgrading access road, wood-chip mulching the entire Arboretum, native tree planting, weed control, and 800 feet of double windbreak trees.

Andrea Thompson, a student intern, does GPS mapping for the USDA grant.

David Moran and JD tractor clear the mess of "weed trees" and 60 year old fence in preparation for the new perimeter Pu'u Mahoe fence.



Maggi questions how the perimeter fence would be built over this rock ledge.

Terry Quisenberry and Henrique Lyons complete fencing the entire 17 acres of Pu'u Mahoe in 2009.

Wishing all a Happy New Year! Mahalo for your support, making our work possible.

P.O. Box 101
Makawao, Maui, HI 96768

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D.T. Fleming Arboretum
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O'hi'a Lehua by Michelle Ritchie

Friends of D.T. Fleming Arboretum at Pu'u Mahoe
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Thank you for your support.

Please mail to:
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Makawao, Maui, HI 96768

Free tours are available on the last Saturday of each month. Volunteer workdays are on the second Saturday of each month. Come be a part of our exciting new projects.
Call 808-572-1097