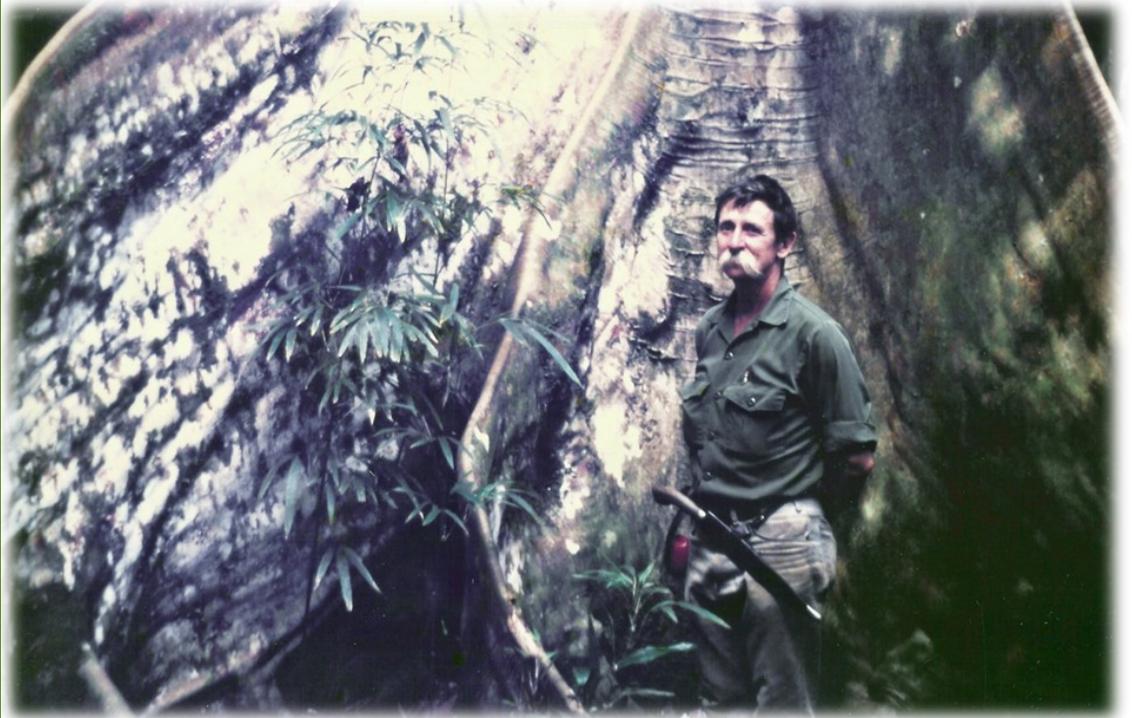


In loving memory of...



Raymond Francis Baker

1945 — 2010

Wish list: school field trip subsidies (\$100), wheelchair (\$250), MIG welder (\$1,500), dehumidifier for the seed lab (\$200), wireless router (\$50), garden hoses (\$45_{ea}), lemons, calamondin, liliko'i fruit, Rite-in-the-Rain ink-jet paper (\$86), cash register (\$300), rain ponchos (\$5_{ea}), 5 rain barrel water catchment systems for edu center (\$250_{ea}), HD laminator (\$250), laptop computer (\$1,000), Apple Ipad (\$500), Igloo Max Cold 165 qt. Cooler (\$130), Toro Dingo utility vehicle (\$30k), electric car (\$35K)

Mahalo for your support!

We acknowledge with gratitude the following donors: Warren & Napua Wong (parking availability for November Plant Sale & Memorial Service), Rick Pierson at UH Art Dept (ceramic tiles), Stan Ishizaki (2 Metrosideros plants & a backpack sprayer), Marian Leong (Metrosideros plant, Synsepalum dulcificum plant), Evelyn Giddings (Iholena banana keiki), Pat Avery (office supplies), Keala ('awa plants)

The Kukui Leaf is published quarterly by the Lyon Arboretum, 3860 Mānoa Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822. This newsletter is available in an alternate format upon request. *Editors:* James Krolikowski & Kalani Matsumura

From the Director's Desk



Generally, we give thanks on the last Thursday of November, but really every day brings us something for which we are thankful. Year's end is just as good a time as any to think about all the wonderful things in our lives, both personal and professional, and to take stock of what the New Year might offer. As a public garden, we deal with so many people who brighten our lives: colleagues, visitors, volunteers, donors, and hosts of others. Certainly, we cannot do what we must without their support and guidance. But it is the plants and the landscape that bring us together. Here comes that Shakespeare quote that I

have repeated all too often: "one touch of nature makes the whole world kin." It is our plantings, established in large part by Harold Lyon, and lovingly curated and enhanced by Ray Baker, which draw us in and seduce us with their beauty and their stories. As we share our botanical riches and knowledge widely, we depend deeply on others to provide behind the scenes support. Our friends at Paradise Park, especially Napua, Warren, and Darryl Wong have opened their arms to us and gladly provide us with parking for our events. Were it not for their generosity, a lot of what we do to attract new people to this magical part of the valley would not be possible. And if we wish to save what is left of our fragile island flora, we need considerable financial support for our conserva-

tion efforts. I am thrilled that the Hau'oli Mau Loa Foundation appreciates the significance of the Arboretum's conservation program and has seen fit to provide major support (\$600,000) for the construction of a new Micropropagation Laboratory. You can learn more about this project on page 6 of this issue of the *Kukui Leaf*. They say that good things come in threes. So, let's give a huge collective *mahalo* to the memory of Ray Baker and all he did for the Arboretum, to the Wongs for all they do to foster a fine partnership, and to the Hau'oli Mau Loa Foundation (and each of you) for helping secure the future. *Mahalo nui loa!*
- Christopher Dunn

Moe i ka moe kau a ho'oilo.

'Ōlelo no'eau 2168

Mary Kawena Pukui

Asleep with the sleep that lasts through summers and winters.



"Hearing about Ray passing has made me think all over again about what a special place the Arboretum is and how special a person Ray was. He told me once that when he died he would like people to celebrate his death by picking out a drink of their choice (I think he had whiskey or scotch in mind, but pick your own poison) and going to their favorite place in the Arboretum to enjoy it and relax and just be there for a while. I hope to return to O'ahu to do that myself and spend some time remembering Ray there. He was truly a mentor to me. And I think to many other people as well, if even in a small way." - Leon Marcus

Volunteer of the Quarter

If you've ever spent time in the Children's Garden at Lyon Arboretum, you've witnessed the hard work of Traver Carroll, our Volunteer of this Winter Quarter.

Whether it's pulling invasive philodendron vines out of trees, digging up weedy heliconia species, or planting *hapu'u* tree fern, Traver has worked tirelessly for the past four years in our education garden. In fact, Traver spent many hours maintaining the garden before the construction of 2008. He watched as Cottage A was torn down and rebuilt, which called for part of the Children's Garden to be bulldozed! Lucky for us, Traver wasn't discouraged.

"It was hard to watch," says Traver, "And it was very different for a while there with all of the pipes and rock, but it helped to transform the garden into what it is today."



Rain or shine, Traver continued to show up twice weekly, putting in over 398 hours in 2009 alone! How did Traver find us? He decided to volunteer at Lyon when some free time opened up in his schedule. "I used to race sail boats for years, but my balance isn't what it used to be. Now I enjoy putting my energy into this work," he says. "I really enjoy my time here."

When Traver is not volunteering, he enjoys working in his own garden and traveling. He and his wife just spent a month in Istanbul and the Turkish countryside!

We are extremely lucky to have such a dedicated volunteer in Traver. Please stop by the Children's Garden on a Monday or Wednesday morning to let him know how much he is appreciated! -James Krolkowski

Message from Lyon Arboretum Association President



Aloha friends! I am pleased to announce The Lyon Arboretum Association and The Garden Club of Honolulu have a new, shared office on the main floor of the administration building at Lyon Arboretum. While LAA does not keep regular office hours, our office administrator, Lillian Ito, is usually in the office on Tuesday mornings. If you are visiting the Arboretum at this time, please drop by and say hello. We thank Dr. Christopher Dunn for allowing us to use this lovely sunny office and many thanks to Ken Seamon for preparing and cleaning it and helping us move in.

The Lyon Arboretum Association is a membership organization whose mission is to raise funds to support the Arboretum and its programs. For the past two years, our main fund raising event has been the Lyon in Summer gala held in early July. Lyon in Summer 2011 will be held on July 16th. Ann Kadowaki, who has worked on the past two events has agreed to chair the event this year. Ann is a new LAA board member who has been very active in many community endeavors and we thank her for agreeing to head our committee this year. She is actively seeking volunteers to help in all areas of preparation. If you have ideas or would like to volunteer to help, please call the LAA office at 988-0464 and leave your name and phone number. We would love to involve some of our long time members!

The proceeds from Lyon in Summer will be used to help underwrite a master plan being developed for the University of Hawai'i Harold L. Lyon Arboretum. So far we have raised \$107,000 to help develop the plan; our event this summer will help that amount grow. The success of Lyon in Summer '09 and '10 was made possible by the guests who purchased tickets, underwriters and donors to the silent auction, and by the many volunteers and Lyon Arboretum staff who worked with us to make the evenings exciting and successful. We look forward to this year's Lyon in Summer event and hope loyal friends and new guests will help to make it an unforgettable evening!

Aloha Pat Avery!

- Trudie Taylor



For many years Pat Avery has been an active member of the Lyon Arboretum Association and a volunteer at many Arboretum events. Currently she has been serving as an advisory member on the Association Board as Membership co-chair. We will miss you Pat. Best wishes on your move to Maui!

"One image that will be engrained in my memory about Ray: sitting comfortably at lunch (a feat in itself, as his camouflage pants and shirt pockets were always bulging with random knickknacks) with a can of juice and his slightly blue-tinged fingers (residue from dye) clutching half a leftover tuna sandwich from Andy's. And exactly at 12:15pm, brushing the crumbs out of his mustache, he would say, 'Ready? Back to work!'" - Alice Kitajima

Save the Date ° July 16th 2011 Lyon in Summer



We are saving a table for you!
Call 988-0464 for more info!

LYON ARBORETUM ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

<u>Member Level</u> (Circle 1)	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>2 Years</u>	Indicate how you want to pay:
Student/Senior (65+)/Military	\$20	\$35	<input type="checkbox"/> Check payable to Lyon Arboretum Association
Individual	\$40	\$75	<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> M/C
Family	\$55	\$100	Account # _____ - _____ - _____ - _____
<u>Charitable Tax Deductible Donation</u>			Expiration Date ____/____ Security Code: _____
Koa	\$500 and above		Signature _____
'Ōhi'a lehua	\$250 to \$500		Name _____
'Ilima	Up to \$250		Address _____
E-mail address _____			Phone no. _____

The Keiki Leaflet

Check out our new **mosaic works** in the garden! In October 2010, Uncle Ambesa led our Fall Intersession Mosaic Arts Program. Students participated in every aspect of the art form from breaking ceramics, granite, and glass, to decorating concrete surfaces with the pieces. The final step was

grouting over the designs to create permanent displays for our visitors to enjoy! *Mahalo* to Ambesa, Kellie Shea, and the volunteers and students who participated in brightening up our garden!



Ambesa shows students how to apply glue to the tile before they begin.



Ambesa creates lotus flower designs with pieces of glass. The students filled in the rest with tile. See the finished product below (center)!



The garden's manhole (top rt) became a mosaic volcano (bottom rt) with flowing lava, rivers, and a snow cap!



"It was nice to be in Ray's company with very little words. He was serious, but always ready for a joke. And he was always calm, like when there was an injury or someone broke a tool, but he would let you know when you pulled the wrong weed. I liked going into new places in the woods with him. He always knew where everything was. It was amazing how he could name just about any plant you pointed to." – Felice Brees-Saunders

Ho'omau'ana ka Hale Halawai o Haukulu

Aloha mai kākou! We recently finished up another successful workshop for our traditional *hale* project on December 29, 2010. It was a great way to end



Lyon staff, volunteers, and friends laulima to build the rock wall for the hale.

2010 and an even better way to enter into 2011. The morning began with an awesome blessing by Kawika Mersberg of Hālau Kū Mana Charter School which was followed up by a chilling *oli* from Kalama. I wasn't surprised by the amount of work that was accomplished that day because we had a great crew of volunteers and Lyon Arboretum staff giving it their all. At the end of the day, we had completed 95% of the rock wall and managed to erect 10 of the 14 corner and wall posts of the hale. *Mahalo* again to Lyon Arboretum staff members Jill, Destin, Clancy, Richard, Steve, Poco and Kainoa. A big *mahalo* to Richard Kennedy for provid-



A view of the rock wall and 'ōhi'a posts that make the foundation for the hale.

ing the grindz! Also to Kumu Palani, Uncle Luka, Uncle Waltah, Anu, Malia and Mahealani for their awesome work....oh and I can't forget the 35+ volunteers who made it happen! *Mahalo!*
- Līloa Dunn

Remembering Ray...



"I will always remember Ray as the tenacious botanist we all loved. Dressed in full camos, with a dog by his side, mosquitoes hovering over his silhouette. Armed with a pair of clippers, a sickle, a bow saw, loppers, and an elaborate knowledge of both the botanical and social history of the place. Quietly waging his personal war against the invasion, protecting his beloved Arboretum. Rest in Peace, dear Ray, your legacy remains in 194 acres and the many students and coworkers who you mentored. Lyon Arboretum will never be the same." – Kathryn Turner

"I had the pleasure of knowing and working with Ray over the years through the Heliconia Society International, and his hard work as editor of the HSI Bulletin revitalized this publication and consequently also brought new vigor and membership to the Society. Ray knew the intricacies of Lyon Arboretum and all its plants better than anyone. He was a good friend and his passing is a great loss to us all." – David Lorence

"When I think of Ray, it is mostly in the valley in the garden. I think of him placing pots of tiny plants on a broad hillside and standing there admiring the future landscape covered with the protective textures of the mature plantings. I see him gently pressing the containers to release the potbound roots, and placing the plants just so into the soil. I hear his answers to questions about scientific name, origin, watering needs, mature size, shade preference, growth habits with scarce hesitation. But mostly I remember his artistry. Ray knew the developing pigments in the leaves and flowers and the subtle draw of light moving through the forest, months and often years before their arrival, and because of this ability he created paths of beauty at Lyon that are rarely seen even in nature. If you wander the acres of the Arboretum and suddenly feel rooted in place, held by a lovely view or an elusive fragrance, you have just felt the touch of Ray's hand and shared a moment with him." –Joan Matsuzaki



Please visit www.hawaii.edu/lyonarboretum for a Ray Baker biography and memorial photo gallery. Memorial donations may be made to the Raymond F. Baker Fund for Lyon Arboretum Grounds and Living Collections in two ways. Funds for immediate needs can be made at: www.uhfoundation.org/RayBaker. Funds in support of the permanent endowment can be made at: www.uhfoundation.org/RayBakerEndowed. For further information, please contact Emily Fay at the University of Hawai'i Foundation (808) 956-5665 or e-mail emily.fay@uhfoundation.org

"When I complained about the overwhelming amount of work we had to do in the woods, Ray would reply calmly, 'I know, I know...just focus on what's in front of you and don't worry about the rest. We will get to it later.' I think that was his main philosophy of work that I heard him saying a number of times. Something else I heard him say a lot was, 'Remember! If you are not sure about it, don't pull it!' He is still here every day." – Hajime Fujisaki

"I knew Ray for over 35 years, first meeting him in one of the numerous, hidden ravines in Lyon as he emerged from a clump of weedy bushes that he was attacking with a machete. Invariably he would take me, with great enthusiasm and frequently with a much beloved canine friend, to one of the numerous, seemingly uncharted, hidden valleys or gulches in Lyon and show me palms about which I am sure only he knew. His mind held vast volumes of information about plants, which never ceased to amaze me. I am sure he knew where every single plant in Lyon was, and could take me to it, typically without consulting any records... I'm glad that I was able to honor Ray by naming *Pritchardia bakeri* in his honor last year." – Donald R. Hodel



"I was walking from my car on a Plant Sale day and came across Ray and Kona in the parking lot and snapped this pic (left). To me it was 'classic' Ray —always toolin' around the grounds with Kona at his side, sitting nicely like a human on the seat right next to him. It'll always be my favorite memory of Ray (and Kona!)." – Cindy Nose

"As a tour guide there must've been a hundred times I searched Ray out and asked, 'What is the plant I just saw?' He always said, 'Well, show me where it is, and went with me. He never said, 'I'm too busy now.' He is really missed." – Kay Davies

"Ray was such an active correspondent on everything gingers, was a dedicated collaborator and promoter of the Heliconia society, and was just such a wonderful person, always with a joke and a twinkle in his eye...and a smile, although you couldn't really see the smile because of his mustache." – Chelsea Specht



Hau'oli Mau Loa Rescues Threatened Plants



We are thrilled to announce that the **Hau'oli Mau Loa Foundation** has pledged \$600,000 to support the Arboretum's Micropropagation Lab capital improvement project! Here at Lyon, one of our major priorities is to enhance our capacity to rescue and reintroduce our rare native plants. Our current lab is woefully outdated and far too small to allow us to accomplish what is needed.

As you may know, this lab is the only one of its kind in Hawai'i and is vital to preventing the extinction of Hawaiian plant species. The new facilities will increase the size of the lab and provide an efficient working environment more conducive to the technological advancement of the rescue and recovery research being conducted.

Thus, the gift from the Hau'oli Mau Loa Foundation is timely and transformative. With added funding from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education, we are well on our way to a fully-funded \$1 million project. However, we need to raise an additional \$200,000 from other sources. Please consider supporting this major program in any way you can. You can help us secure our future!

Please contact Emily Fay at (808) 956-5665 or Emily.Fay@uhfoundation.org for information on how you can support the Lyon Arboretum. You can also make a gift online at <https://www.uhfoundation.org/ConservationLabFund>

Aloha Alvin

Alvin Yoshinaga came to Lyon Arboretum over a decade ago as a Restoration Ecologist from the Center for Conservation Research and Training. Initially, Alvin worked on landscape restoration with native Hawaiian plants in a number of sites at the Arboretum. Over time, his research focus shifted to conservation of native Hawaiian seeds. Very little was known about their storage when Alvin first started his research. Today, due to Alvin's research contributions, protocols for collection, processing, and storage of seeds from rare and endangered native Hawaiian species have been developed. Since its inception, the seed lab has received and processed over 1,600 accessions (collections made of one species on one date at one location) and over 4 million seeds.

Alvin has traveled extensively for both business and pleasure, but the people, food, and culture of Thailand seemed to intrigue him in a way that no other place could. This is where Alvin met and fell in love with a Thai national by the name of Onanong Prommaart, nicknamed "Mot" for short. Alvin and Mot decided to tie the knot last year, which influenced his decision to retire in December of 2010. Upon retirement Alvin had this to say: "One of the great pleasures of my career has been the opportunity to collaborate with so many others who are working in plant conservation—I expect that we shall continue to be in touch during the coming years." Alvin has been a consistent and extremely generous donor to UH and to the Arboretum for over 28 years, and before leaving Lyon he made an amazing contribution of \$15,000 towards the Lyon Arboretum Endowment Fund, which was mentioned in the Fall 2010 Kukui Leaf.

Alvin is now enjoying his retirement and is building a home with Mot about 8 miles east of Chiang Mai. He plans to spend about half the year there and the other half in Honolulu. While in Chiang Mai, Alvin will be keeping busy with scientific editing and teaching of scientific English part-time for the Chiang Mai University Biology Department, and continuing his Thai language classes. While in Honolulu, Alvin will be working hard on finishing up his PhD dissertation and volunteering in the seed lab at the Arboretum. Thank you, Alvin, for your dedication and hard work. You will be greatly missed!

- Tim Kroessig

We extend extreme gratitude to these donors for their support:

\$500-\$1500

Mr. & Mrs. H. Richard Burson
Pamela and Charles Hinsdale
Mr. Richard L. Quinn
Sogetsu Hawai'i Branch
Mr. Alvin Y. Yoshinaga

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Ms. Cecily A. Wong
Ms. Joan Yanagi



HECO to Fund Endangered Species Day

Lyon Arboretum recently received a generous donation from Hawaiian Electric Company to help underwrite the costs of Lyon Arboretum's Endangered Species Day in May 2011. The funding will support the Arboretum's education programs and provide educational outreach on the rare and endangered plants of Hawai'i for adult and youth audiences. Plans include a photo contest, a family film festival, a volunteer work day, a plant sale featuring rare & native plants, a limited edition series of endangered species cards, limited edition T-shirts, special school tours, special guided tours and self-guided tours. Watch for a calendar of events on our website, and find out how you can help protect and save endangered species! Endangered Species Day, celebrated nationally on May 20, brings attention to the importance of protecting endangered species and critical habitat.

- Jill Laughlin



Endangered Species Day 2011 Digital Photography Contest

This contest is open to individual students and/or adults in the following 3 age divisions:

- Kindergarten – 6th Grade Students • 7th Grade – 12th Grade Students • Adults 18 and over

Original, unpublished photographs must be taken by entrant and submitted digitally as color or black & white images in JPEG format. **Limit one entry per person. Photographs MUST highlight native plant species of Hawai'i.** *Contest Rules and Regulations* and required *Entry Form* can be found at our website, along with a list of online Hawaiian plant resources to aid you in your research.

Submission deadline is Friday, April 1st 2011. Good luck!

"Ray Baker left us a legacy. The Lyon Arboretum plantings that Ray so carefully selected, placed and tended will provide a diverse forest for many generations that follow, creating a wealth of opportunity for visitors, students and scientists alike. People will be sheltered from the heat of the sun, find solace on a quiet hike, or share the joy of discovery and camaraderie with their families and friends amongst Ray's plantings. Ray's work ethic, his passion for plants, and the knowledge he so willingly shared, have taken root in many of the people he worked with and inspired. Ray will be greatly missed, but his life's work is thriving." – Jill Laughlin

<http://www.hawaii.edu/lyonarboretum/>

Save the trees!

If you'd like to receive future newsletters in pdf format via email, please contact higashiz@hawaii.edu



Raffle Prize

For those who sign up for the email newsletter (through February 2011), you will be eligible for a \$10 gift certificate that will be redeemable at the Arboretum gift shop. Congratulations to Mona Miyamura, our Winter 2010/11 raffle prize winner!

For more information about donating to the Arboretum, please contact the UH Foundation (Emily Fay at 956-5665 or manoa.development@uhfoundation.hawaii.org) or the Director of the Arboretum at 988-0457. Please send to: Lyon Arboretum / UHF, Appeal code: 11AB5, 386o Mānoa Rd, Honolulu, HI 96822

Name: _____ Phone: () _____ — _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Payment method: _____ check (payable to Lyon Arboretum/UHF, Attn account #12043404)

Or Credit Card: _____ (Visa) _____ (Master Card) _____ (American Express)

Account #: _____ — _____ — _____ — _____ Exp date: _____/_____/_____ Security code: _____

Signature: _____

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\$5 Docent led tours available
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Please call 988-0461 for
reservations.

Arboretum Staff

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Dr. Christopher Dunn

Administration: Destin
Shigano, Derek Higashi

Education & Volunteer

Programs: Jill Laughlin,
Richard Sears, James
Krolikowski

Plant Collections &

Grounds: Hajime Fujisaki

Ethnobotany: Līloa Dunn,
Poco Compehos

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Micropropagation Lab:

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Doug Okamoto, Kalani
Matsumura, Ivan Lee

Seed Lab: Tim Kroessig

Horticulture: Liz Huppman,
Carol Nakamura

Botanist: Karen Shigematsu

Facilities / Maintenance:

Ken Seamon, Clancy Ako



Spring Plant Sale

At Blaisdell Exhibition Hall

Hosted by Lyon Arboretum

Saturday, April 2nd • 9am-2pm

A wide variety of plants from the
Arboretum and over 30 nurseries.

Jams & jellies, handicrafts, and
fresh lei made by Arboretum
volunteers will also be available!

FREE admission. All proceeds benefit Lyon Arboretum.
Contact 988-0456 or lyonarb@hawaii.edu for more info.

