



Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens

The Bodhi Leaf

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SPRING 2016

SPRING PLANT SALE



Photo by Dana Anne Yee

Foster Botanical Garden
May 21, 9 am - 2 pm

8:30 am Early Entry for FHBG Members

Free Admission 🌱 Garden Tours

This year's theme is 'Planting Ideas'

Free Gardening Classes

(Class info on our website: friendsofhololulubotanicalgardens.com)

Sponsored by Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens & the City and County of Honolulu,

President's Message

Emmy's Notes.....

The Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens recently held its Annual Meeting at Ho'omaluhia and what a fun and interesting time we had. The Mayor joined us in his signature light blue palaka shirt and helped with the cleanup of the food containers by passing the opala bins so it all could be properly recycled. Bob Sigall had prepared a quiz about the gardens and their history and it was a fun challenge for all to answer his questions. It was a joyous fun day in the country.

My favorite harbinger of spring is an interesting plant sale; a wide variety of plants and information about the culture of them from either the nursery owners or a plant doctor. Ours features both as well as some wonderful free classes. The container class will feature small plants attractively arranged in small pots to decorate a table or lanai area.

Scot will share some basics of orchid culture and answer questions as well. Brian will cover tips on maintaining a water garden which I find much more difficult than starting one. And the knowledgeable HBG docents will lead 4 tours of the Foster Garden; at 9:30, 10:30, 11:30 and 1 pm.

Come join me for another day of fun at Foster Garden, an oasis in the middle of our busy city.

Emmy Seymour, President

Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens



Photo by Cheryl Tyler

Mayor Kirk Caldwell

Donations & Friends in Deed

The Board of Trustees of the Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens would like to thank the following for their generosity and the gift of their time. Mahalo!

Kukui (\$100 - \$499)

Cleo Chun
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Friends in Deed

Greg Boxold
Barbara Kuljis
Bob Sigall

In Memory of Paul Heyd

Betty S. Keller, Burma K. Barnes,
and Lucinda B. Keller
Doug, Rick, Greg, and Mark Heyd
Frederick and Leslie Carter
Fusayo H. Nagai
Gail Schwartz Myers
James Mistysyn
Mark Eward
Marilyn Mossman
Suzanne Jambeau

In Memory of Betsy Sakata

Peter Drewliner

from the Director's Desk

Honolulu Botanical Gardens (HBG) staffs have their running shoes on, as they energetically sprint from one event to another this year!

On April 14, we held our annual **Volunteer Appreciation** event to honor our wonderful volunteers at Wahiawa Botanical Garden. Mayor Kirk Caldwell attended the recognition event to specially thank everyone for their spirit of volunteerism in helping at our gardens. Also attending were Deputy Managing Director, Georgette Deemer, and Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation, Jeanne Ishikawa, a Wahiawa native who spoke about the rich history of the town.

On May 21, HBG will be co-sponsoring the **Plant Sale/Educational Event** at Foster Botanical Garden with the Friends of HBG.

Coming up in June and July are the **Twilight Concerts**, held on Thursday evenings at Foster Botanical Garden. This year, two Friday evening concerts are planned for Wahiawa Botanical Garden, on June 24 and July 29.

This year, a big change in our events schedule is that we will not be having the usual evening Midsummer Night's Gleam in July.

Many of you already know about the removal at Foster Botanical Garden of our majestic Exceptional Tree, the 150 year old earpod (*Enterlobium cyclocarpum*), for safety reasons. Work continues on the renovation of this main terrace area of the garden. For this reason, instead of the Gleam this year, we will be holding an alternate, daytime event in July, with the theme of **"Plants and Healthy Living"**.

"Plants and Healthy Living" will be held on Saturday, July 16, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Foster Botanical Garden, with displays, activities, demonstrations and educational classes highlighting the myriad ways in which plants contribute to living healthy lives. We hope you will join us at our exciting new event!

On October 1 and 2, 2016, HBG will once again partner with the Friends of HBG to feature **The Beginning of a Garden**, a living history program. The script and the original 2013 presentation were funded with a grant received by the Friends of HBG from the Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts. It features a play written about the history of FBG, spotlighting the lives of Dr. William Hillebrand, Ms. Mary Foster, and Dr. Harold Lyon.

Coming soon in 2017, HBG will proudly join the Honolulu Biennial Festival, a celebration of contemporary art from the Pacific, Asia and the Americas. Fumio Nanjo, Director of Tokyo's Mori Art Museum, will curate this Biennial, which includes the works of international as well as local artists. Between three to five pieces of artwork will be featured at Foster Botanical Garden in March and April of next year.

For updates and final schedule of the events and activities above, be sure to check our website: www.honolulu.gov/parks/hbg.html.

Winnie Singeo, Director
Honolulu Botanical Gardens

Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens

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The Earpod at its End

by Alexander Kufel

Not all trees die with dignity. They often fall in the night to disease and strong winds; in the day to lumberjacks bent on profit or other vagaries. Not so, *Enterlobium cyclocarpum*, the enormous Earpod tree at Foster

Botanical Garden. She went in a flurry of emotion and glory, ribbons draped around her giant trunk as a lei of aloha, one branch at a time in a three week long ritual of chainsaws and cranes that protected her surroundings and disclosed a large cavity at her base, a bark covered charcoal section possibly induced by lightning, and an ancient concrete patch deep in her core. She crowded the upper terrace with limbs and tree trunks and retained her magnificence until the last branch was hauled away.

William Hillebrand, royal physician, royal botanist, could hardly have imagined the emotions triggered by such a sight. He brought her to Hawaii over a hundred and fifty years ago after scouring the tropics for medicines and plants he thought useful to Hawaii. This tree bore witness to possibly the most cataclysmic period in Hawaii, and suffered its own indignities along the way, growing to 135 feet before succumbing to decay, massive limb failure and tree trimmers. Never one to give up, she persisted from one century through another and into a third endearing herself to everyone. When her work was done she said goodbye still sprouting seedpods, then made room for others to follow.

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