



**SIERRA
CLUB**
FOUNDED 1892

MAUI GROUP
P. O. Box 791180
Paia, Hawaii 96779
808 579-9802
www.hi.sierraclub.org/maui
email: holter@maui.net



SIERRA CLUB, MAUI GROUP
APRIL TO JUNE, 2008 NEWSLETTER

MAUI GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Give us a call and let us know your thoughts.
Sierra Club members are invited to attend our monthly meetings.

CHAIR'S REPORT

By Lance Holter

Recently in a Jan 23, 08 Maui News "Viewpoint," Dain Kane, Maui County liaison for Blue Earth Biofuels, extolled the virtues of imported palm Oil and Blue Earth as a model of sustainable energy, work force relations and farm contracts.

The foundation of the Blue Earth Biofuels biodiesel 120 million gallon mega refinery is the importation of palm oil from Indonesia or as Blue earth's spokesman, Landis Maez, said back in 2007, soybean oil from South America. Continuing to import oil whether it is a vegetable oil or petroleum is exactly what is not considered a definition of sustainability. In the last year the voracious appetite for energy and cooking oil in China has bid up the price of palm oil 100% on the international market. Shortages of soybean oil has caused the price of soybeans and soybean oil to skyrocket, so much so that Midwestern US biodiesel refineries have suspended production of biodiesel and expansion of facilities.

In a telling story published in the January 20, 2008 Sacramento Bee by Tom Knudson "Dark side of a hot biofuel" details the destruction caused from imported palm oil. As a result of rainforest destruction Indonesia and Malaysia have now become the third greatest producers of CO2 global warming gases. Recognition of the unenforceability and in tracing the lands and origins of palm oil due to the fact it's a bulk commodity blended and shipped in giant batches has made Europe Union officials wary. "How can palm oil be sustainable if it's causing so much destruction" said a Rainforest Alliance Network director www.RAN.org.

RAN has identified abuse and harsh working conditions on many soy and palm oil plantations. The quality of the workers health is marginalized by exposure to toxic pesticides and in Brazil, slave labor is still used on many soy plantations. The spread of massive agro-oil plantations violates traditional and indigenous land rights forcing small family-farmers to shift from subsistence to export-driven commodity farming and pushes them off their lands entirely. On the Island of Sumatra, an indigenous Kubu native said: "I am a victim, I have lost my garden. Cannot grow the rubber, bananas, chilies, and other things I need to feed my family." Indeed the

price of palm oil has only become economical because the cost of labor in Malaysia, Indonesia and Brazil is cheap and the laborers are exploited by gigantic corporations, corrupt governments and military dictatorships.

Kane states "...at 20-plus megawatt per acre energy yields, agricultural-based energy ..." will reduce our dependence on foreign oil..." The Hawaii Agriculture Research Center report 2007 states we can expect 400-500 gallons of refined biodiesel per acre from energy crops like African Palm Oil trees. This, waiting 12 years for an acre of palm oil trees to mature in optimal conditions with plenty of rainfall. Is this enough profit to secure viable farm contracts for \$3.50 per gallon of refined diesel for a gross of \$1,575.00 per acre (not including deducting the costs of farming, water, fertilizer, pesticides, labor etc.), and after waiting 12 years to grow the oil? And by the way in truth, Mr. Kane you will need somewhere near 25,000 acres of prime agricultural land to produce enough agro-oil for 20 megawatts of electricity.

Don't get me wrong here, my truck runs on bio-diesel and I support bio-diesel as a sustainable local transportation fuel. I just don't approve of our electric utility overlooking the best bio-diesel company on the planet - our own homegrown local company of the year Pacific Biodiesel - for some mega refinery that will keep us locked into imported agro-fuels forever to feed its giant appetite. Nor do I feel we can justify building the largest bio-diesel refinery in North America when we have no history of what crops and yields we can really grow for fuels in Hawaii. Let's not be a party to destroying the world's great wildernesses for the sake of oil when we can invent our way out of the energy problem by using established, tested and already performing technologies like wind and concentrated field solar. In 2007 Nevada Solar One (go to www.youtube.com and search for Nevada Solar One) was completed using 400 acres to produce 64 megawatts of electricity to supply 50,000 homes with clean sustainable power from parabolic mirrors.

In February, 2008 the Governor of Arizona signed a \$1.5 Billion power purchase contract with Abengoa Solar (www.aps.com and click on Solana) to build, by year 2011, three square miles of concentrated solar mirrors producing enough electrical energy to serve 70,000 customers with an economic value over 30 years of \$4 Billion. We can do this here in Hawaii right now and put hundreds of people to work in a new economy based on real actionable sustainability.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Sierra Club Annual Meeting: On February 9th we had our Annual Meeting at the Kaunoa Senior Center in Spreckelsville. We have 650 members here on Maui and over 50 members attended. We awarded the Onipa'a Award to David Chenweth, Randy Awo and the late Ron Sturtz this year. Onipa'a means steadfast dedication over a long period of time to protecting the environment for future generations to enjoy. Each of these three recipients has definitely made a lifetime dedication to safeguarding our environment. We then had a distinguished speaker's panel consisting of Senators Ron Menor and J. Kalani English, Representative Mele Carroll, Lucienne de Naie, State Chair of the Sierra Club, and Michael Duberstein, a technology consultant and economist. The panel topic was: "Choosing Our Future: Energy, Water and Livable Communities." The panelists were highly enlightening about future sustainability ideas and current bills in the state legislature that will help. The main course of lunch was generously donated by Mana Foods of Pa'ia with coffee contributed by Anthony's Coffee shop of Pa'ia.

Dr. Glenn Shepherd: We are deeply saddened by the passing of Dr. Glenn Shepherd, a long time educator and environmental activist. Dr. Shepherd earned his doctorate in Geology from the University of Hawaii and taught physical geology at Maui Community College. In the 1970's he testified that building a seawall at Kalama Park in Kihei would destroy the beautiful beach that was once there. He was right. The beach is now gone. He also testified on numerous other occasions over the years here on Maui to protect the environment. He truly made a difference in his life's work. We will all miss him.

Sierra Club Cash Box Stolen: On March 8th at the Haiku Flower Festival, we were having a great day selling plants and flowers raising donations for the Sierra Club to protect the environment here in Maui, when, at approximately 2:30 pm, someone grabbed the cash box with about \$1,000 in it while Sierra Club members were momentarily looking the other way selling plants to a customer. This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year, and this year was especially successful since so many people had donated plants to be sold. The empty cash box was retrieved and the police are investigating and examining fingerprints on the box. If you saw anything, please call Officer Kalama of the MPD or Bob Babson at 874-1166. Also, if you would like to help make up for the loss, please send your donation to Sierra Club, Maui Group, P.O. Box 791180, Paia, HI 96779. Mahalo!

UPDATES ON MAUI CONSERVATION ISSUES

North Shore Heritage Park: State senate resolutions SR127 & SR66 introduced by Senators, Tsutsui and English supports use of Legacy Lands Fund for purchase of lands of North Shore Heritage Park. Proposed park lands were all recommended for preservation in previous community plans and studies. The new General Plan maps which will show what areas of the Northshore are recommended for urbanization and/or preservation are scheduled to be released on April 3, 2008 (note this date was delayed from Dec 13, 2007 date originally set). They will be posted at www.co.maui.hi.us/departments/Planning/gp2030/index.htm. A&B properties, which owns virtually all the lands proposed for the park has announced publicly that they will be selling many of their Maui lands. Both Mayoral candidates in the 2006 campaign supported creation of a park. Please let your support for the Park be heard during the

General Plan review process. To receive alerts sign up at Sierra Club Maui webpage. For more information, please see: www.northshorepark.org.

Pali to Puamana Parkway: A community Task Force will meet in May 2008 to choose four possible alternative solutions to improve traffic conditions on Honoapiilani Hwy between Ma'alaea and Launiupoko. Based upon this discussion, a report on "Alternatives Analyses" for a Lahaina bypass route is expected by November, 2008. Citizen concerns have been expressed that no new road corridor should be approved that allows more development makai of the new road and restricts the public to a few access points along the coast. The issue of determining parklands in this area will also be reflected in the upcoming General Plan maps (see above).

East Maui Streams: State biologists conducted a study of native stream life and stream flows in a number of East Maui streams in late 2007. State Water Commission hosts a public meeting April 10 5-9 pm at Haiku Community Center to discuss their findings and next steps to act on a 7 year old citizen petition to amend (increase) stream flows in 27 East Maui streams

'Iao & Waihe'e Stream Restoration: The State Water Commission concluded its hearing on citizen petitions to increase stream flows in Na Wai Eha on March 4. Hui o na Wai Eha, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Maui Tomorrow made a strong case. The Commission will decide the matter by the end of 2008. Maui County is also generally supportive of this position. The Commission voted March 13 to designate the 4 streams (Na Wai Eha) as a surface water management area, an action that will require commercial users to apply for permits and justify their existing or proposed uses of stream water. Domestic users are exempt from permits. Sierra Club is not a party to this historic action, but testified at the hearing in support.

Sustainable Energy: A variety of bills are still alive in the state legislature regarding renewable energy. Bills to increase Hawaii's energy efficiency and encourage clean energy use are having a strong showing at the state capitol. Measures alive today would increase funding for renewable energy programs, provide rebates for clean energy use, phase out the use of incandescent lights, require solar water heating on all new homes, and remove restrictions on the use of clotheslines in community associations. Interest in renewable energy as a profitable enterprise has also spawned attempts to hide unwise policies and practices behind the guise of "helping provide renewable energy." The power generating station proposed for Maui fueled by imported palm oil and a giant wind farm with undersea cable proposed to transmit energy from Lana'i to O'ahu with no environmental review, are examples of corporations begging the question of what sustainable power generation really needs to be in Hawaii. Sierra Club activists continue to monitor these and other plans to help shape a viable local renewable energy future for Maui. For more information: www.HawaiiBioFuel.org.

Plastic Bag Ban

Local natural foods stores have committed to switch to bio-degradable plastic bags but a Maui County bill requiring businesses with annual gross sales over \$250,000 to provide compostable plastic bags, paper bags or reusable bags to customers has hit resistance from big retailers. The matter has been deferred until May after council budget sessions are complete. Will voluntary programs to reduce proliferation of plastic bags work as the industry lobbyists are promising? Tired of plastic bags in our ocean? Let the county council know you support laws that help Maui transition to less use of plastic bags and then only compostable bags. Testimony can be sent to: county.council@mauicounty.us

Superferry Update: Judge Cardoza awarded Sierra Club and its allies court costs for a portion of their legal expenses incurred during legal challenges asking that HSF undergo environmental review. HSF and the state are expected to appeal the judge's decision. The superferry itself has spent most of 2008 out of operation due to impacts from winter ocean conditions. Sample inspections during its few sailing days revealed many of the risks expected by the public: transport of bees and other insects, marine foods collected on Maui being transported to O'ahu and other hazards. On Feb 29, 2008 Sierra Club and its allies appealed Judge Cardoza's decision to lift his original restraining order and allow the ferry to sail before the environmental review process was complete. The allies believe that the action taken by the legislature to create a special exemption for the ferry violated the state's constitution. For updates please go to: www.SaveKahuluiharbor.com

Haleakala Solar Telescope (ATST): Haleakala National Park and the citizen group, Kilakila o Haleakala are still awaiting project's final EIS to be released to see how their concerns have been addressed. For more info, go to: www.kilakilahaleakala.org.

Pumping Policy for Harbor Tour Boats: Keep our oceans free of disease. Weigh in at: www.pumpdontdump.com.

Honolua Bay development: Two citizen groups are working with the Mayor's office, Hawaii Wildlife Fund and others on a plan to protect one of Maui's most historic and culturally significant regions. Save Honolua Coalition and other groups are supporting a bill in the legislature to help fund purchase of park lands. For more updates go to: www.savehonolua.org.

South Maui Development: Wailea 670 (approx 1,200 units, priced from \$400k to \$4 million, just S. of Maui Meadows) received first level County Council approval with around 4 conditions. S. Maui residents have filed several legal challenges that are pending,

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over the lack of updated environmental review and other irregularities in the Council's review process. Maui Group and others advocate for the project to update its EIS to let policy makers know what is really planned to address the many unanswered concerns. For updates on hearings and actions, go to: www.savemakena.org.

MAUI GROUP HIKES, SERVICE TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Please be prepared for outings. Bring lunch, water, rain gear, sunscreen and sturdy footwear. Hiking boots are recommended and please trim your toenails. No kidding! Hiking can cause "tennis toe." A donation of \$5 (\$3 for Sierra Club members) is requested of hikers over age 14. Please register early. Pre-registration is required for some hikes. Call the hike leader number shown below. The East Maui Irrigation Company (EMI) allows us to hike across their land so long as each hiker has a waiver. An EMI waiver is ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED for EMI hikes (listed below). One waiver covers all EMI hikes for this quarter. Call in your waiver request to Jackie at 579-9516 well in advance and make an appointment with her for when you can sign it. Then go to EMI's Pa'ia office at 497 Baldwin Avenue to sign the waiver. Please be considerate of Jackie's time and pick up waiver 5 days in advance whenever possible. Also, please check our web site, www.hi.sierraclub.org/maui, and click on Hikes and Activities for additional hikes and outings and/or changes which we have added after this newsletter was published. Mahalo!

Just a quick note to also say we do need new hike leaders. Being a hike leader is fun. You can pick the hikes you lead. Please call Lucienne de Naie at 572-8331 or Bob Babson at 874-1166 for more information if you are interested.

CONTINUOUS SPECIAL SERVICE EVENTS

Maui Coastal Land Trust Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Restoration: Be a part of restoring an ancient fish pond and other sites which have a major cultural significance and participate in a remarkable learning experience. Every Friday, 8 am to noon. No need to register, just show up. Go to Waihe'e and turn toward the ocean on Halewaiu Road. Turn left onto the dirt road marked "Maui Coastal Land Trust" and park at the parking lot overlooking the ocean. This area is called "Roundtable." For more information, please call Scott Fisher at the Maui Coastal Land Trust at 808 244-5263 and/or go to: www.mauicoastallandtrust.org and click on Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands. MCLT also offers a free guided walk of the Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands on the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 am. Call 244-5263 for more information and to make a reservation. Spots fill up quickly, so call early. This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Project Malama Honokowai: This is a service trip and you will be helping in an archaeological stabilization, reforestation and education project known as Project Malama Honokowai. Every Saturday from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. A very special experience! Simply meet at 9:00 am at the intersection of Honoapiilani Highway (between mile marker 25 and 26) and Pu'u'ukoli'i Road at the "Sugar Cane Train" station parking lot in Ka'anapali. You don't have to register - just show up. In the mountain valley above is a three mile long valley with significant archaeological ruins where an estimated 600 ancient Hawaiian families once lived. For more information and to confirm the date, please call Ed Lindsey at 808 572-8085. This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Project Malama Hanaula: Help reforest the area around and above the Kaheawa Wind Farm above Ma'alaea. Meet every Sunday from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. Park in the public parking lot near Carl's Jr. Restaurant at Ma'alaea. Carl's Jr. is located next to the gas station at the stop light. Then carpool 2,000' up to the wind farm where the view is incredible. Help remove alien species and re-plant endemic plants and learn about the area and the wind farm. The wind farm currently consists of 20 1.5 MW turbines and provides 9% of the electricity for Maui and 18 more turbines are planned. Bring your camera, lunch, water and suntan lotion. For more information and to confirm the date, please call Ed Lindsey at 808 572-8085. Also, please go to www.kaheawa.com. No registration is necessary - just show up. This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Malama Makena: First Saturday of each month, Save Makena www.savemakena.org sponsors a cleanup effort in or around Makena State Park. Call Angie Hofmann at 357- 3134 for details on meeting time and place.

Community Work Day Cleanups: If you know places that need to be cleaned up and would like to organize it with friends or an organization you belong to, you can call Community Work Day at 877-2524 and they will provide you with trash bags, advertise your location in the newspaper to get more volunteers to help you, and coordinate having a truck come out and pick up all the trash you bag and leave along the roadside. Community Work Day is a 501c3 charitable organization and organizes these clean ups state-wide five times a year. They are truly a wonderful organization!! For more information please go to www.cwdhawaii.org. This is not a Sierra Club activity.

MARCH HIKES AND ACTIVITIES

Tuesday, March 25, 4:30 to 6:00 pm at the MACC: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please call Bob at 874-1166 to confirm meeting time and place.

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Tuesday, March 25, 6:00 pm at the MACC: Focus Green presentation. The speaker will be Suzanne Malec-McKenna. She is the Commissioner of the Dept of Environment for the City of Chicago. She was appointed by Mayor Daley, who has earned praise as "one of the country's greenest mayors." Admission: \$5.00. All proceeds benefit the Maui Coastal Land Trust. This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Monday, March 31: North Shore Historical Tour - Mama's Fish House to Maliko Gulch (approx. 9am to noon). Learn about the rich history of this scenic coastal area from ancient fishing villages to plantation days. Route includes sand, dirt and rocky areas. Meet 9 am at Pa'ia Community Center. Hike leader: Lucienne de Naie. Call 572-8331 to register.

APRIL HIKES AND ACTIVITIES

Sunday, April 6: Makapipi trail hike. Moderate 5 mile hike. Explore historic Ko'olau Ditch from Makapipi to Kopili'ula Stream. Scenic vistas, pools, waterfalls and native plant life. Water shoes are suggested. Bring lunch, water and camera. EMI WAIVER REQUIRED (See above). Meet at 8:30 am at the Haiku Community Center to car pool. Limit 18. Leader: Bob Babson. Please call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Sunday April 13: Makena Historical Tour, 2 mile roundtrip walk explores the legendary past of the area from Puu Ola'i to Makena Landing. Meet 9am at first paved parking lot Makena State beach (aka Big Beach). Leader: Lucienne de Naie 572-8331.

Wednesday, April 16: Visit beautiful Kahanu National Botanical Garden set right on the ocean in Hana and see the largest heiau in Hawaii. \$10/person entrance fee. Then, drive to Waianapanapa State Park and hike rugged coastal trail overlooking magnificent tidal pools. Swim and have lunch on the beach at Waianapanapa State Park. Meet 8:30 am at the Haiku Community Center and carpool to Hana. Bring bathing suits and lunch. Limit 18. Leader: Bob Babson. Please call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Saturday, April 19, 10 am to 3 pm: Earth Day celebration and plant sale at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens, 150 Kanaloa Avenue, Kahului. This will be the sixth annual Earth Day Celebration! Sierra Club Maui will be among the educational booths focusing on conservation of Hawai'i's environment, native species and the beautiful culture. Experience old Hawai'i by participating in Hawaiian cultural activities. Enjoy the 'ono food and great Hawaiian music. Free admission and free parking. Bring the family for a fun, hands-on learning experience! This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Saturday, April 19, 10 am to 3 pm: Earth Day celebration and plant sale at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens, 150 Kanaloa Avenue, Kahului. This will be the sixth annual Earth Day Celebration! As always there will be educational booths focusing on conservation of Hawai'i's environment, native species and the beautiful culture. Experience old Hawai'i by participating in Hawaiian cultural activities. Enjoy the 'ono food and great Hawaiian music. Free admission and free parking. Bring the family for a fun, hands-on learning experience! This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Late April or May - Date not finalized yet: Sierra Club Maui Group and Kilakila o Haleakalā will co-sponsor a panel discussion on the Advanced Technology Solar Telescope (ATST), which the National Science Foundation (NSF) proposes to build on Haleakalā, Maui. If you would like more information on this event which will take place in late April or May at Maui Community College, please call 572-5662. As soon as the date is finalized, information will also be available at the Sierra Club Maui Group web site at www.hi.sierraclub.org/maui and also the Kila Kila O' Haleakala website at www.kilakilahaleakala.org.

Tuesday, April 22, 5:00 to 10:00 pm. Come and join the fun! Sierra Club Earth Day Fundraiser at the Flatbread Company, 89 Hana Highway, Paia. We will also be celebrating John Muir's birthday. John Muir was born on April 21, 1838 in Dunbar, Scotland and founded the Sierra Club. Need theme and details, etc. Enjoy great Pizza and updates on local issues.

Saturday, April 26: Community Work Day cleanup. Please call CWD at 877-2524 to find the cleanup nearest to you or watch for the listing of all cleanup locations in the Maui News. Mahalo for helping keep Maui beautiful! This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Saturday, April 26 and Sunday, April 27: 16th Annual East Maui Taro Festival in Hana. Come visit the Sierra Club info booth. Concerts, musicals, plays, performing arts, cultural and Hawaiian food & beverage. A wonderful festival. Please come and enjoy. This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Tuesday, April 29, 5:30 to 7:30 pm: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting at the Flatbread Company "Board Room" upstairs, 89 Hana Highway, Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please call Bob at 874-1166 to confirm meeting time and place.

MAY HIKES AND EVENTS

Monday, May 12: Huelo waterfall hike along Hanehoi stream. Short, but challenging hike along historic Huelo stream (along state and private land by permission) to waterfall and pool. Leader: Lucienne de Naie. Limit 12: please call 572-8331 to register.

Tuesday, May 20, 5:30 to 7:30 pm: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting at the Flatbread Company "Board Room" upstairs, 89 Hana Highway, Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please call Bob at 874-1166 to confirm meeting time and place.

Saturday, May 24: Wailea historical tour. Learn about the forgotten fishing villages of Palauea, Waipa'o and Wailea on this informative tour with two walking stops. Meet 9am at Polo Beach parking lot (downhill from Kea Lani Hotel). Leader: Lucienne de Naie.

Sunday, May 25: Haleakala National Park - Hike from Halemauu Trailhead down to rim of the crater for spectacular views of the crater and then backtrack to the "Supply Trail" and hike to Hosmer Grove where we will look for birds. Actually see two sandalwood trees still growing in the wild! Leave one car at Hosmer Grove to take drivers back to trailhead where we began. All downhill!! 5 miles. Bring lunch, water and binoculars. Meet 8:30 am at Pukulani Terrace Shopping center at Bank of Hawaii to carpool. Park entrance \$10/car. Limit 12. Leader: Ann Fielding. Assistant leader: Bob Babson. Please call Ann 572-8437 to register.

JUNE HIKES AND EVENTS

Saturday, June 7: Wahinepe'e Water Hike Moderately strenuous uphill hike in East Maui watershed with waterfalls and pools. EMI WAIVER REQUIRED. (See above). Six miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, camera and bathing suit. Meet 8:30 am at the Haiku Community Center. Leader: Tina Dart. Limit 18. Call Bob Babson at 874-1166 to register.

Sunday, June 8: Snorkel Trip to Honolua Bay. View Honolua Bay's beautiful coral reefs and turtles. This is a protected marine reserve and is loaded with fish. Bring snorkel gear, towel, sunscreen, lunch, and water. For those who get cold in the water, please bring a "shorty" wetsuit. Meet 8:30 am at D. T. Fleming Beach Park. Limit 10. Leader: Ann Fielding. Ann is a marine biologist and will give a marine life briefing before the snorkel. Call Ann 572-8437 to register.

Saturday, June 14: Hike south from La Perouse Bay on the Kings Highway to one of the most remote and beautiful areas on Maui. Visit anchialine ponds (unusual shallow ponds with tiny red shrimp) and archeological sites along the way. Then hike further south to beautiful sandy beach where we will swim and have lunch. Bring swimsuit, lunch, water, hat and sunscreen. 6 mile roundtrip all day hike. Meet at Kihei Community Center (Lipoa Street & Piilani Highway) at 8:30 am to carpool. Leader: Bob Babson. Limit 18. Call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Sunday, June 22, 1:00 to 4:00 pm: Please join us on a very interesting and educational historical tour of Haiku. Visit a number of sites in Haiku that were significant to the Hamakua Loa region and hear the story of each area. The tour is sponsored by the Sierra Club and the Haiku Living Legacy Project. Meet at 1:00 pm at the Haiku Elementary School cafeteria, on Pauwela Road near the Hana Highway. The Haiku Living Legacy Project is a 501c3 organization and donations will be appreciated. Call Kathy McDuff to register at 572-5662.

Tuesday, June 24, 5:30 to 7:30 pm: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting at the Flatbread Company "Board Room" upstairs, 89 Hana Highway, Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please call Bob at 874-1166 to confirm meeting time and place.

Sunday, June 29: Papa'aea Reservoir Trail. Moderate uphill 5 mile hike in lush East Maui watershed. Eat lunch at a beautiful pool with waterfall. EMI WAIVER REQUIRED (see above). Bring lunch, water and bathing suit. Meet at the Haiku Community Center at 8:30 am. Limit 18. Leader: Bob Babson. Call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

INFORMATIVE WEB SITES

To contact your Federal officials, go to www.usa.gov

To contact your State officials, go to www.hawaii.gov

To contact all State Senators with one email, go to sens@capitol.hawaii.gov

To contact all State Representatives with one email, go to reps@capitol.hawaii.gov

To contact your County officials, go to www.county.maui.hi.us

All sites are very educational and contain lots of email addresses.

Let them know your thoughts on the issues!

They really do read their email and you can make a difference!!

Note: At the Maui County website: www.co.maui.hi.us, click on "General" and then click on "E-Mail Subscriptions." You can then sign up for all council and committee meeting agendas and other information such as civil defense, weather and high surf warnings, press releases, etc. They will all be emailed to you for free and you can then email your testimony to the council chair or committee chair shown on the agenda and it will be made available to all council or committee members to read. You don't even have to leave home to testify! It will also become a permanent part of the meeting records and interested citizens can review your testimony by going to the "Council Services" office and asking for all testimony on a specific proposed ordinance. Make sure to reference the agenda item by number you are testifying about so it gets filed correctly by Council Services.

MEMBERSHIP

If you would like to join the national Sierra Club or renew your membership, please go to www.sierraclub.org and click on "Join or Give." When you join the national Sierra Club, you automatically also join both the Hawaii Chapter and the Maui Group and receive the national Sierra Club magazine, the Hawaii Chapter newsletter and the Maui Group newsletter. The national Sierra Club now has over 1,300,000 members nationwide and is a leading organization in the fight to preserve the environment for future generations to enjoy. Think what America would be like today if environmentalists had not fought to preserve it 10, 20 and 30+ years ago. Did you know that "Big Beach" almost became a hotel? But because of environmentalists in the early 1970's, it was bought by the state for future generations to enjoy forever!! Please tell your friends to join!! Anyone can join for as little as \$25.00 per year.

Also, whether you are a member or not, everyone is welcome to surf our national home page at www.sierraclub.org. It is highly informative of all the projects we are working on. Anyone can sign up for email alerts of environmental actions the national Sierra Club is taking and how you can help by emailing your elected Senators and Representative asking them to vote for vital legislation that will preserve our environment.

DONATIONS

If you like the work we are doing and you would like to make a tax deductible donation to the Sierra Club Foundation, please make your check out to the "Sierra Club Foundation, Maui Group Account," and mail it to 85 Second Street, Suite 750, San Francisco, CA 94105. Your donation will be used here on Maui to protect the environment for future generations. The Sierra Club Foundation is a 501c3 organization and is active in environmental education and the enforcement of environmental laws to protect our environment. Its federal tax ID # is 94-6069890 for your tax records. The Sierra Club Foundation will send you a letter meeting all IRS donation requirements for your tax records. For more information, please go to www.tscf.org.

If you would like to make a donation to the "Sierra Club, Maui Group" which is not tax deductible but which will help us pay for our direct lobbying of government officials here on Maui to protect the environment, please make your check out to "Sierra Club, Maui Group" and mail it to POB 791180, Paia, HI 96779-1180. Mahalo! For more information about what we are doing, please go to www.hi.sierraclub.org/maui.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you are moving and want to change your address for the Sierra Club, please send old and new addresses and a Sierra address label to Sierra Club Member Services, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80328-2968, or call (415) 977-5653, or email the information to address.changes@sierraclub.org. This one notification will change your address for all newsletters and magazines including the national Sierra Club magazine, the Hawaii Chapter newsletter and the Maui Group newsletter.

SIGN UP FOR MAUI GROUP'S EMAIL ALERT SYSTEM

Please go to www.hi.sierraclub.org/maui and click on "Join Our Email List." Simply put in your email address and we will send you emails alerting you of important news concerning the environment and activities where you can help to protect the environment of Maui for future generations to enjoy. Such activities could include rallies to attend, meetings to attend where you can testify, and vacancies on important environmental boards and commissions where you can volunteer to sign up to fill a position and be on the board or commission and represent the best interests of the environment and vote to protect it. This is a great way to be heard and make a difference.

SAVE THE DATE!

Tuesday, April 22nd from 5pm to 10pm

Sierra Club Maui Group Benefit Night

At the Flatbread Company

89 Hana Highway, Paia

Join Us in Celebration of Earth Day

And John Muir's 170th Birthday!

**Sierra Club, Maui Group
P. O. Box 791180
Paia, Hawaii 96779**