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Kilauea

Autumn 2009 looking at the sea



THE AQUARIUM OF THE LAND
ANNUAL REPORT FY 2009 SUPPLEMENT

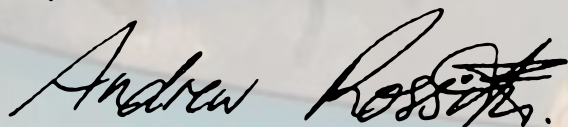
FROM THE DIRECTOR

Change is one of the constant good things in the Aquarium galleries and, over the next few months, you'll notice some changes outside on our grounds, too. Last month we began cutting back the naupaka plants, redoing our irrigation system and introducing new Native Hawaiian plants. The entire coastal gardens will be revamped over the coming year and we are doing some exciting new interpretation with the Native Hawaiian plants, which you can read more about on page 4. This project is funded by grants — and there is no other way we could have accomplished it, given the state of the economy.

Which brings me to a question I am asked at least twice a week: "Why don't you apply for federal stimulus money? You are surely a deserving cause!" On that point I agree completely but, unfortunately, the decision-makers saw things differently. The text in the federal stimulus package places aquariums and zoos in the same category as casinos, golf courses and iceskating rinks; all of which are specifically excluded from receiving any stimulus money whatsoever. Just why aquariums are placed in this salubrious company mystifies me and many others.

It is equally troubling that the zoo and aquarium advocacy groups missed this and became aware of the exclusion only after the bill had passed. Had we received financial support through the stimulus package to construct a new Aquarium, the short-term financial benefits to the local economy via construction and job creation would have been immediate. The benefits of a major educational and entertainment attraction for residents and tourists would have been far reaching and long term.

This may well be a chance denied, but it is equally certain that other grants and funding opportunities will present themselves in the future. Maybe next time!



Dr. Andrew Rossiter
Director

Other grants and funding opportunities
will present themselves in the future.



Kilo'ia

Issue Number 171 Autumn 2009

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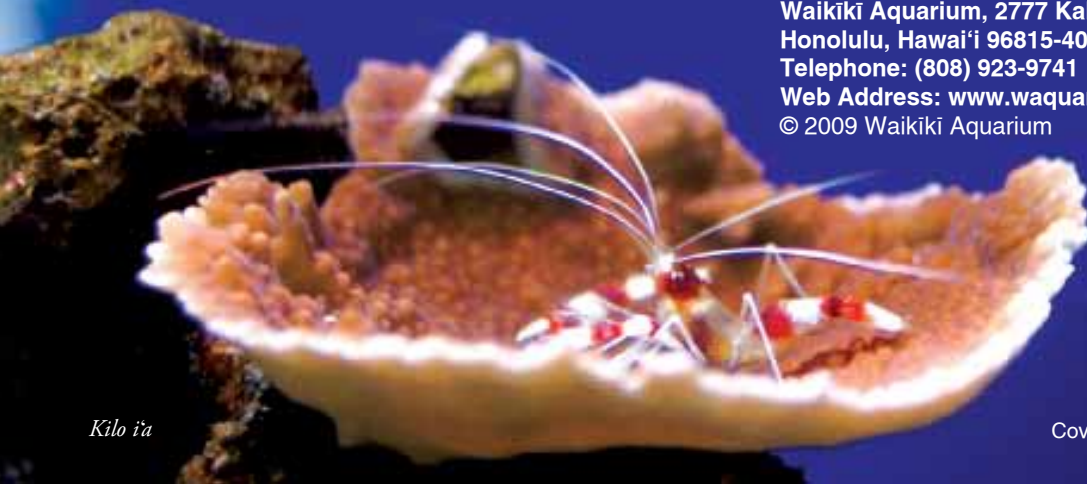
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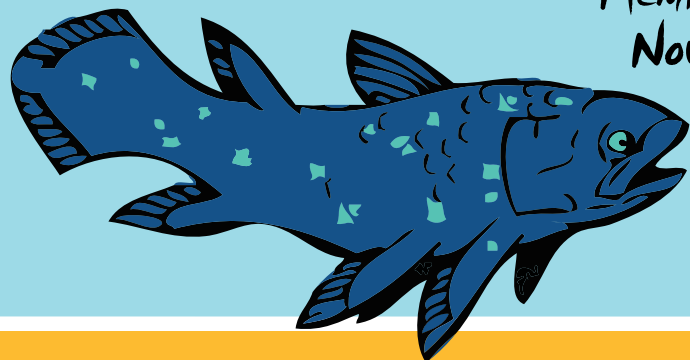
The Fish That Came Back From The DEAD

Join us for Members' Night on Nov. 15 and dive into the intriguing world of the coelacanth. The coelacanths first appeared millions of years ago when the dinosaurs roamed the earth. It was thought they were extinct, so when a living animal was discovered in 1938, it was heralded as one of the significant biological finds of the 20th Century.

Prof. Eugene Balon is a world authority on the coelacanth and he'll be at Members' Night to talk about his work with this lobe-finned fish.

For more information, see the calendar on page 8.

Members' Night
November 15



For years, Dr. Kim Holland has been getting up close with some of the ocean's largest predators. On Oct. 27, he and Dr. Carl Meyer will visit the Aquarium to talk about their work tracking sharks and tuna around Hawai'i and the Pacific.

Based out of the Shark Lab at the University of Hawai'i's Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology on Coconut Island, Holland's team are world leaders in the study of large tropical sharks. Their work is casting a light on the little-known lives and worlds of these large ocean animals — information that can be used to help foster sustainable management. Their long-term tracking study has revealed some surprising information, too. Some animals travel further than we thought, while others don't move as much as we expected.

Following the **Animal Tracking** presentation, participants may visit the Magic Planet to watch animal movements and migrations, use the spyball camera to track animals in the Hunters on the Reef exhibit, visit co-sponsor Hawaii Ocean Observing System's booth with information on real-time data collected around O'ahu, and get a new Seafood Watch card.

See the calendar on page 8 for more information.

ON THE TRAIL OF THE OCEAN'S HUNTERS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27 6-8 P.M.



What animal has three hearts, hovers like a hummingbird and flashes like a neon sign?

Come and check out our new cuttles in the Jet Set Gallery. If you're lucky enough to catch them at feeding time (which is twice a day), you'll be treated to one of their amazing color displays. These cephalopods stalk their prey with accuracy and incredible speed. It's thought that some cuttles may use their color displays to hypnotize their prey. When they pounce, they shoot out their feeding tentacles to snare their prey and bring it to their mouth — don't blink or you might miss it.

The cuttle!



These juvenile pharaoh cuttles came from the National Research Center for Cephalopods in Galveston, Texas.

Introducing...



Our two new blacktip reef sharks have been christened. Emalia Eichelberger won our naming game with her nomination of the names Pā'ele and 'Ele'ele. Apropos names for blacktips as both mean "dark" or "black" in Hawaiian. Our mahalo to Emalia, who wins a year's family-level membership to the Aquarium.





These plants and fish share common properties that the ancient Hawaiians captured in their names. Top: The brilliant yellow of the tang (lau'ipala) is echoed on land in the aging leaf of the ki. Middle: The 'aweoweo fish and plant share the same name — and a distinct fishy smell. Bottom: The tail of the scrawled filefish, or loulou, bears a striking similarity to the leaf of the loulou palm. 'Aweoweo fish photo courtesy of John Hoover.



THE AQUA

Waikīkī Aquarium's new coastal garden

Matt Schirman walks the lush rows of Native Hawaiian plants at Hui Kū Maoli Ola's nursery at the foot of the Ko'olau mountains. He reaches out and plucks several leaves from a small bush and crushes them between his fingers.

"Here," he offers. "Smell this."

No mistaking it — it smells like fish. This is the 'aweoweo plant, which shares its name with the 'aweoweo, or bigeye fish, found swimming in Hawaiian waters. Centuries ago, the ancient Hawaiians were well versed in the sometimes uncanny similarities between plants on land and life in the ocean. They captured these pairings by giving them the same names.

Last month, the Waikīkī Aquarium began revamping its coastal gardens to explore this old cultural link between land and sea.

"This goes beyond just putting in some new plants," says Director Dr. Andrew Rossiter. "We're taking it a step further and adding to the overall experience of the Aquarium by exploring the cultural links. There will be new signs around the grounds that lay out the relationship between the plants you see and the fish that



You can read more about Hawai'i's native plants and the work at Hui Kū Maoli Ola at the company's website, www.plantnativehawaii.com. The nursery is also open to the public and can be found at 46-403 Ha'ikū Rd. Phone: 235-6165.

RIUM OF THE LAND

stal gardens explore ancient cultural links between land and sea

they share their names with.”

It's believed this will be the first garden of its kind.

“We already have a group of volunteers who want to help with the initial planting and interpreting as docents,” says Aquarium Community Outreach Director Marylou Foley, who is heading up the project. “It's exciting.”

The work is funded by a grant from the state Department of Land and Natural Resources' Kaulunani Urban Forestry Program and the Aquarium is working with the native plant experts at Hui Kū Maoli Ola.

Schirman and co-founder Rick Barboza have dedicated themselves to protecting and restoring Hawai'i's unique — and often fragile — natural resources. It is these plants that helped shape Hawaiian culture, Schirman says, and if they are lost, Hawai'i loses its cultural identity.

Sadly, centuries of habitat destruction have left Hawai'i's plants in a precarious position. Their dwindling numbers have hastened coastal erosion and led to the disappearance of animals that relied on them for food and shelter. The introduction of countless exotic plants has further hastened their demise.

When Hui Kū Maoli Ola was formed in 1999, few people knew much about Hawai'i's native plants. These days, they are gaining a small foothold in local

landscapes and you can even find them in big box stores such as Home Depot and Wal-Mart. Hui Kū Maoli Ola's nursery is an exciting place to rediscover these plants. Some of the species they are propagating, like the native gardenia, are extremely rare. There are only 14 of these plants left in the wild, but there is a chink of hope in that the nursery can propagate them in the thousands.

The coastal garden around the Aquarium provides a native oasis in urban Waikīkī, introducing visitors to the Island's unique heritage and reminding us of the inseparable links between the land and the sea. For the Hawaiians, the name pairings had a deeper meaning, too, which can be found in their creation chant, the Kumulipo.

“Within it, the chant says that for every creature created in the ocean, there was something created on the land that looks out for it and guards it,” Schirman explains. “This is a principal that the Hawaiians have known for centuries and we're only now getting back to it. The hot topic now is watershed management. We know there is a distinct relationship between what we do on land and what happens in the ocean, and that it's our responsibility as land stewards to look after our ocean counterparts.”



More than 300 people — and some really weird echinoderms — turned out for our annual Family Night in August. Volunteers obligingly transformed into algae, a sea urchin's favorite food, for the evening (see below) and participants got up close with an array of animals collected especially for the event. One of the star attractions was a catala sea star (at left), brought in that evening by local collector William Crook. Crook has been a great friend to the Aquarium over the years and has donated many rare and unusual fish to our collection. The catala sea star was no exception. One look at its photo here and you can understand why its other common names are "fat sea star" and "heaviest sea star."

The dramatic catala is found in deeper waters (Crook collected this one at 110 feet) and can grow to two feet in diameter. You can look for it on exhibit in the galleries.



LADIES

In July this year, the First Lady of Taiwan, Chou Mei-Ching Ma, paid a visit to the Aquarium. The visit came during a stopover in Hawai'i at the end of the Taiwanese president's diplomatic tour of Central America. Aquarist Kelley Niide gave the First Lady and her entourage a guided tour of the galleries, explaining the themes of the exhibits.



KE KANI O KE KAI 2009

We had a great time this summer with Ke Kani O Ke Kai. The five ocean-side concerts featured some of the Island's top performers, including The Brothers Cazimero, Hoku Zuttermeister, Kaumakaiwa Kanakaole, Maunalua and Willie K. Net proceeds from the concerts will benefit an upcoming Hawaiian Streams exhibit. Hana hou!



Pictured from top: Hoku Zuttermeister and Dr. Andrew Rositer, Maunalua, and hula dancer from the Maunalua concert. Photos: Kelsey Ige.



CLASSES & ACTIVITIES

October-December 2009

Afterschool at the Aquarium

Wednesdays 3:00 p.m.

Looking for something to do after school? Every Wednesday, the Aquarium hosts a fun activity on the lawn. You can enjoy stories by the sea, or maybe a critter encounter or a creative movement session. The activities last from 10 to 20 minutes and are designed for ages 4 to 8, but everyone is welcome. Free with Aquarium admission.

Marine Munchies

Mondays (except holidays) 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Discover animals' adaptations for capturing their meals and what they eat here at the Aquarium. Included is an exclusive after-hours animal feeding. Feed a sea anemone. Watch the octopus open a jar to get its dinner. Then it's your turn to feed the animals in our Edge of the Reef exhibit. Minimum age 5 years; youngsters must be accompanied by an adult. \$16/adult, \$12/child (\$20/\$15 for non-members).

Marine Educators' Night

Oct 3, Sat 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Marine educators and a guest are invited to an evening mixer to get to know colleagues and to acquire new curricula ideas and materials. A wide range of federal and state agencies will showcase their materials for marine education. NOAA Ocean Explorer's curricula will be highlighted and innovative activities from the curricula will be demonstrated. Light refreshments will be served. To register, call 440-9011 or e-mail reservations@waquarium.org.

Small Fry

Oct 7-Nov 4, Wed

A Session

8:30-10:00 a.m.

B Session

10:30 a.m.-noon

For the youngest learners. An adult and their 1- to 3-year-old team up to discover the amazing undersea world of the Aquarium. Five weekly sessions include crafts, song, play and exploration of the exhibits. For adult-child teams. \$65/adult & child (\$90 for non-members).

Makahiki Celebration

Oct 17, Sat

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Celebrate this time of peace, feast and games when ali'i (royalty) and maka'āinana (commoners) refrained from work and wars. On display will be rarely seen symbols of the makahiki, including akua loa (Lono's image) and akua pā'ani (image of the god of sports), along with poi pounders, fish traps, fish hooks and information about the fishing kapu that fostered conservation. Our mahalo to Pa Kui A Lua, Umi Kai and NOAA's Pacific Services Center for their support of this event, which is free with Aquarium admission.

Oceans Alive!

Animal Homes: Sand, seaweed, coral & water

Oct 24, Sat

9:00-10:30

Movement: Fins, jets, arms & legs

Dec 29, Tue

10:00-11:30

Sing, dance, move and groove. Draw, color, create and play. Observe, watch, look and touch. Learn more about the sea during Oceans Alive! Move through stations and enjoy a variety of hands-on activities. For 2 to 5 year olds. \$5/person (\$7 for non-members).

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Questions about the activities? Call the Waikīkī Aquarium Education Department at 440-9007.
- Preregistration is required for all activities.
- FOWA members are allowed up to four total registrants at FOWA rate.
- A handling fee of \$5 will be assessed for withdrawals.
- No refunds can be made for no-shows or for withdrawals made seven days or less before an activity.

To register by phone:

Call 440-9011. Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

To register by mail:

Full payment must accompany completed registration forms. Please, no cash.

Make checks payable to **University of Hawai'i**. Visa and MasterCard are also accepted.

Mail the completed registration form with a check or credit card information to:

Waikīkī Aquarium Education Department
2777 Kalākaua Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96815



Animal Tracking

Oct 27, Tue

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of science highlighting animal tracking in the Pacific. Enjoy the booths and activities and take in a presentation by Hawai'i's tracking experts Dr. Kim Holland and Dr. Carl Meyer. See page 3 for more details. Recommended for learners 10 and up. \$6/person (\$8 for non-members).

Photography Night

Nov. 10, Tue

6:00-7:30 p.m.

An evening with and for photographers. This program is for amateurs to snap without the crowds. Professionals will be on hand to offer tips. Attendees can then send in their favorite photos, which may get posted on our website. Recommended for photographers 16 and up. \$8/person (\$10/non-members).

Exploring the Reef at Night

Nov 14, Sat

6:30-9:00 p.m.

Nov 30, Mon

6:30-9:00 p.m.

Dec. 1, Tue

6:00- 8:30 p.m.

Dec 12, Sat

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Dec 30, Wed

6:30-9:00 p.m.

Join us as we explore the reef at night. Aquarium staff and participants wade up to their knees on these wet and wild excursions. Test your nocturnal vision as we search for crabs, shrimps, eels and octopus. For adventurers aged 5 years and up; youngsters must be accompanied by an adult. \$15/adult, \$9/child (\$18/12 for non-members).

Ocean Arts! Holiday-Themed Ocean Crafts

Nov 11, Tue/wed Veterans Day

A Session

9:30-11:30 a.m.

B Session

12:30-2:30 p.m.

Nature provides the inspiration. You provide the creative juices to produce marine-themed art projects. The projects are great multi-age challenges. Perfect for gifts, decorations and holiday cards. All materials provided. An adult-child program for those aged 6 and up. \$9/person (\$14/person for non-members).

Members' Night

Nov 15, Sun

The evening begins with the annual FOWA member meeting at 5 p.m. Doors and exhibits open at 6 p.m. and the presentation by Prof. Eugene Balon is scheduled for 6:45 p.m. See page 3 for more information. Members are invited to bring a picnic dinner; drinks and dessert will be provided and an extra special event-only discount for FOWA members at the gift shop. RSVP is requested; call 440-9015. Free for FOWA members; \$5 for non-members.

Aquarium After Dark

Nov 24, Tue

6:30- 8:00 p.m.

Dec 17, Thu

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Dec 29, Tue

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Discover if fish sleep, sea snails snooze or weedy seadragons doze on an after-dark flashlight tour of the Aquarium exhibits. Minimum age 5 years; youngsters must be accompanied by an adult. \$10/adult, \$7/child (\$14/\$10 for non-members).

ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM★

Name(s)



Adults _____ Phone (home) _____

Children/Ages _____ Phone (work) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please register me for

Activity	Session	Date(s)	Number of Adults/Children	Price
_____	/	_____	_____	_____
_____	/	_____	_____	_____
_____	/	_____	_____	_____
_____	/	_____	_____	_____
_____	/	_____	_____	_____

Total amount of payment enclosed (check payable to University of Hawai'i) : _____

If paying by credit card

Credit card # _____ ☐ JCB ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Expiration date: _____ Last three digits of security code on back of card: _____

I am a FOWA Member ☐ Yes ☐ No



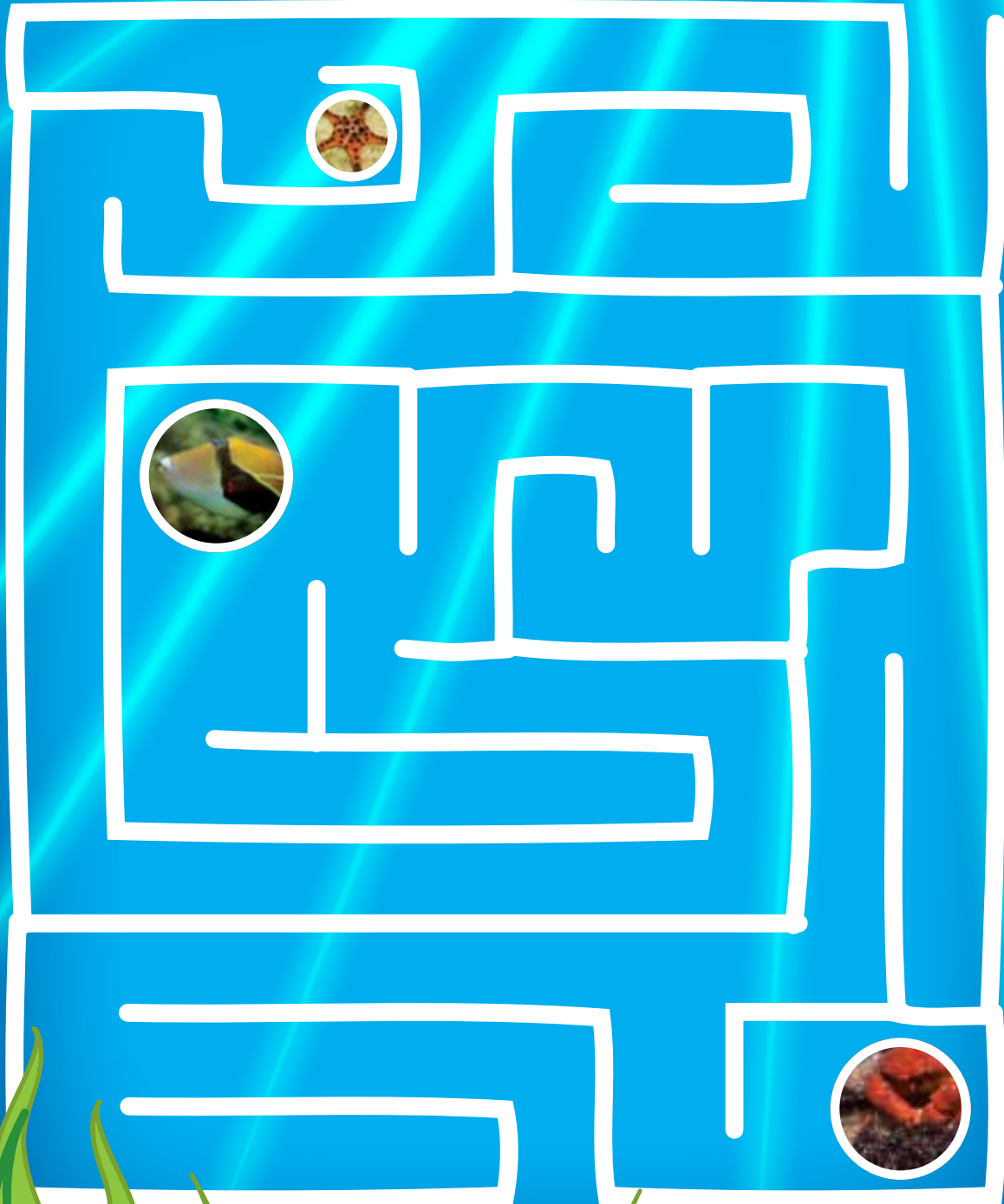
sea squirts



Help the collector urchin find the food!

Be careful of predators!

START



FINISH



NEW & RENEWING FOWA MEMBERS

**The Membership Office
recorded these new and renew-
ing memberships between May
16 and Aug. 16, 2009.**

Mr. Raymond & Mrs. Maureen Abe
Tedric & Allyson Abe
Arnold & Norma Abe
Ayako Abfalter
Mr. & Mrs. Scott A. Abrigo
Devon Aguilar
Myladel & John Aguilon
Carl & Wendy Akai
Paul K. Akaka
M. M. Akamine
Mr. & Mrs. Alfaro
Tom & Carol Allison
Kandee K. Almond
Nicole Amby & Dustin Ching
Jeanne A. & Lea Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Hart Anway
Ralph Aona & Tonia Mahi
Rhodora Day G. & Loren Aquino
Mr. & Mrs. Calvin K. Arata
Ephrem Arnet
Gabriella & Eric Ashford
Mr. & Mrs. David F. Asmus
Kenneth & Mae Au
Mr. David Austin & Dr. Jennifer Loh
Mrs. Jan & Mr. Steve Awakuni
Brendan & Marie Bailey
Sean & Renee Bakley
Frank & Kayleen Bantell
Mr. Joshua Barnes & Dr. Julie Iezzi
Kasey Barton & John Maurer
Mr. Cristo J. Basas &
Ms. Michella Maiorana
Mr. William M. & Dr. Carol Bass
Kristeen & Lee Bates
Beau & Myra Bayne
Mr. & Mrs. James Beasley
Robert & Jodi Lynn Beatty
Rodney & Elizabeth Ben
Mr. Michael Bishop & Mrs. Marie Shiels
Simon & Lyn-Marie Bitanga
Chris & Jamie Blake
Mr. Sergio Bololi
Mr. Edward &
Mrs. Catherine Bonan-Hamada
Ben & Christine Bondroff
George R. Bonnett
Mr. & Mrs. Brand
Lon & Leslie Briggs
Ardyth Brock
Steven & Jacqueline Bronson
Ernest Burnett & Annette Chun
Kalei Cadinha & Kalei Cadinha-Puaa
Herman & Evelyn Calbero Jr.
James Cannon & Gwen Tan
Michael Caracciolo & Kim Nieves
Mr. Matthew "Matt" Cardiel
Justin Carland
Mr. Stanford & Mrs. Kathy Carr
Ms. Sidney Lei Carrillo &
Ms. Linda Mendonca
Dave & Paula Carroll
Linda & John Carter
Warren & Tiffany Chaiko
The Rt. Rev. Richard &
Mrs. Delia Chang
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Chang
Ruth Chang
Nai-Wen Chang & Paul Kai
Jennifer Chang & Nyles Toguchi
Wendy Char & Earl Kubo
Edmund & Benita Char
Dr. Bruce Chen
Eng-Nz Chen
Mr. Daniel & Mrs. Edwina China
Stefanie Ching & John Yanagida
Edric & Leslie Ching
Cory & Stephanie Ching
Gary & Jamie Ching
Jason Chow
Lila Chrystal
Mr. & Mrs. Terence Chun
Kenneth B. Chun
Evelyn A. Chun & Lisa Conley
Arati Clarry &
Christopher Kip Sohriakoff
Brad Coates & Sachi Braden
Paul & Sandra Cockrell
Matthew & Christine Cody
Traci Cole & Michael Church
Reed & Anne Copsey
Michael & Lara Cowell
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Cox

Bob Crone
Daniel Cruz
Adam Culbertson
Dr. David Curb & Dr. Beatriz Rodriguez
Denis & Beverly Curry
Mr. & Mrs. Roy K. Dacuyucy
Daniel & Angela Daly
Mr. & Mrs. Ian Damon & Monica Martinez
Mrs. Claire S. & Mr. Glenn C. Dang
Ms. Allison Daniel & Ms. H. Deane Wong
Jennifer Dartis
Dr. & Mrs. Steven D. Davidson
Sonny, Jaye & Nainoa Debina
Jacob & Heather DeFries
John Dehart
Ruby Delbeek
Larry Denneau & Maureen O'Connell
Joanna DePyke & Shannon Walker
Barbara Detroia
Elaine Dewhurst
Robert & Hiroko Dewitz
Drs. Roxanne & R. David Dikeman
Mr. & Mrs. James G. Dittmar
Askok C. Do
Mary Y. Doi
Chris Dossey
Barbara S. Dove & William Beadle
Glenn & Yvette Dowd
Hunter & Traci Downs
Andrew & Lisa Dudgeon
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Stephen & Adelia Dung
Lara, Justi & Justina Dunhour
Marilyn & D.B. Dunlap
Ralph V. Dykes
Jennifer Easley
Jennifer & Darin Ebato
Rona Elliot & Roger Brossy
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Sylvia & Kurt Eschbach
Cassie Esteban & Michael Palabay
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Kathrine Fast
Mr. Christopher M. Ferko
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Mr. & Mrs. Scott Frank
Renfred & Tiffany Frias
Bill & Susan Friedl
Dr. & Mrs. Denis Fu
Mrs. Tanya Fuentes-Ho & Mr. Dennis Ho
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Darin Fujioka
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Marcene Gray
Denise Grayzell & Rianon Stephens
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Kur Gunderson &
Anne-Marie Scheidegger
Ms. Brynn Gute
Mr. & Mrs. Carl J. Hagihara
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Davis
Heidi Haliniak & Dandi Ahuna-Haliniak
Naomi Hamachi
Dean & Gloria Hamada
Shuji Hamamoto
Mr. & Mrs. Stewart T. Hamasu
Joy Harjo & Lurline W. McGregor
Bruce & Gina Hart

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Wallace T. Hayashi
Mr. John W. Hayden
Mrs. Rosie Hayden
Mrs. Winifred H.Y. Hee
Mrs. Nery Heenan
Mercedes K. Hendrickson
Cynthia Hernandez & Melissa Jovero
Wendy & Garrett Higa
Mr. & Mrs. Wallace S. Higuchi
Regina K. Hilo & Quoc Nguyen
K.S. & L. Hirashima
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Hirata
Jeff, Tara & Makana Hirohata
Barbara Ho & Keahi Tucker
Mrs. Alma Ho & Ms. Diane Bosworth
Mr. Peter & Mrs. Michelle Ho
Mr. Daniel Ho & Ms. Elayna Berean
Mr. & Mrs. Wallace S.T. Hong
Ms. Brandi & Mr. Robin Horner
Mr. Matthew Horner
Andrew & Amanda Hosken
Melinda Hottendorf & Khazirae Fears
Dean Hu & Yolanda Wu-Hu
David & Diane Huth
Laurie & Percy Ihara
Charlene S. In & Paul Billington
Mr. & Mrs. Egan Inoue
Mr. & Mrs. Ross T. Inouye
Herbert & Judith Inouye
Alexis Inso & Barbara Gacki
Mr. & Mrs. Todd Isayama
Ronald M. Iwamoto
Mr. & Mrs. Kyle K. Iwamoto
Steven & Estelle Iwamura
Glenn & Emiri Iwasaki
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Katherine Killebrew &
Mark Cunningham
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Dr. & Mrs. Robert Kim
David Kim
Lauren Kim & Dennis Okimoto
Scott & Soo Kim
Mr. Marvin Kimmel
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Ross & Maria Kinsler
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Kinzie III
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William & Florence Lee
Arthur & Sylvia Lee
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Patricia A. Lee
Roland & Lani Lee
Lorraine T. Lee
Bailey Lee
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If your name is not listed or is listed incorrectly, please accept our apologies for the error and our most sincere thanks for your support.

Annual Report FY 2009 Supplement

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

My previous annual report focused on change. Little did I know then that 2009 would be a year in which change would affect us all, and in ways unimaginable. The global recession has affected tourism, which has in turn affected our gate receipts. Budgetary issues at the state level have impacted the Aquarium through a hiring freeze, which has meant that vacant positions have not been filled, leaving departments understaffed and the existing workforce overextended.

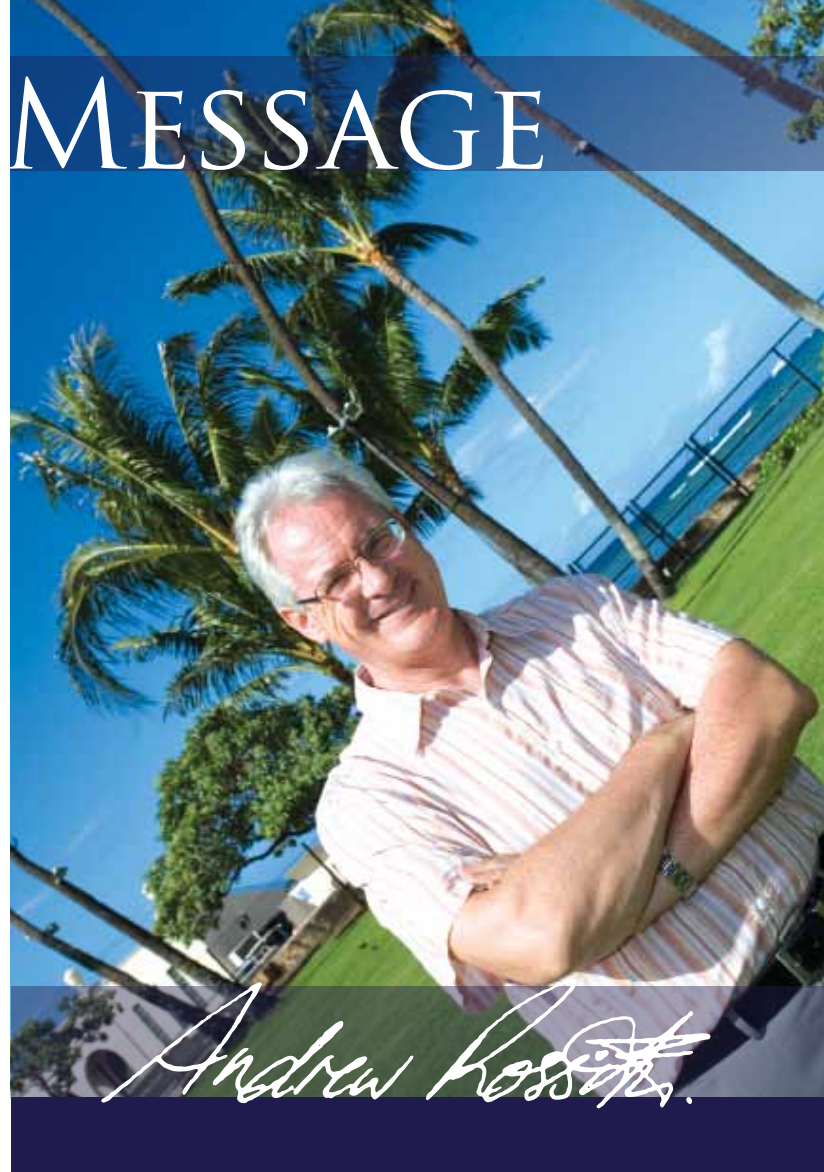
It has also necessitated cuts in our operating budget. Add to the mix the uncertainty over the potential imposition of furlough days, pay cuts, layoffs and other measures aimed at addressing the state budget deficit, and the scale of the challenges is apparent.

However, we are definitely not unique in this — probably some of you are experiencing equally uncertain times. We have been through difficult times before, and we will come through this one.

Despite all these challenges, some things at the Aquarium remain untouched. We remain committed to providing the optimal care to the animals housed in our facility. And we remain committed to providing you, our members and guests, the best service, experience and educational opportunities possible. Even in this year's challenging times we renovated a Kāne'ohe Bay exhibit to highlight a threatened species of Hawaiian coral we are propagating behind the scenes. And in the coming months, construction work will finally get underway on a new NWHI exhibit and a new Hawaiian streams exhibit.

We are also now evaluating a new Edge of the Reef exhibit, an expanded Coral Ark conservation facility and a major new Kāne'ohe Bay exhibit housing hammerhead sharks and brown stingrays. We even have an interest in the future of the Natatorium — more on that in the next *Kilo i'a*.

So, while momentum has been slowed a little, it has not halted. The Aquarium remains active and optimistic, ever looking toward the future. Especially in these times, we thank you for your continued support of the Waikīkī Aquarium and wish you every success in the coming year.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR, FRIENDS OF THE WAIKĪKĪ AQUARIUM



As we close out another fiscal year at the Waikīkī Aquarium, I realize that very soon we will be entering a new decade.

These last 10 years have included important milestones for our Aquarium. The new decade — and millennium — included the celebration of our 100th anniversary and the hiring of our new director, Dr. Andrew Rossiter, who came to us in 2004 from Lake Biwa Museum in Japan. It was also a time for exciting new exhibits such as the stunningly beautiful western Pacific giant clams, which, as you may remember, were subject to a mysterious heist and then a puzzling return. We also welcomed Ocean Drifters, the new exhibit of sea jellies: those creatures that aren't really fish and are just plain mysterious and intriguing to watch. In 2006, President Bush signed a proclamation creating the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument, Papahānaumokuākea; a very significant event, as the region is home to more than 7,000 marine species, a quarter of which are found nowhere else on Earth.

As the Waikīkī Aquarium enters the new decade in 2010, we carry forward the strengths and knowledge of our seasoned director and his staff. Their vision for the future includes improvements to existing displays and the creation of new exhibits that will focus on the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and Hawaiian streams. Our work in marine life conservation continues and is enhanced with our designation as the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center for the Pacific Island Region of the Coastal America Partnership. There is also a renewed interest in what the long-term future holds for the Aquarium in expansion and regeneration. We are excited about the challenges ahead and thank all FOWA members for your continuing support.

Jennifer Isobe
Chair, Friends of Waikīkī Aquarium

FY 2009 HIGHLIGHTS

kokua: reaching out

- ★ Despite the downturn in the economy, membership counts held steady at about 2,700, which includes about 7,500 people.
- ★ Membership application forms are now available **online** and we implemented a Christmas gift certificate program. Membership cards were redesigned with a new FOWA logo.
- ★ More than 70 members rented the Aquarium for **private events**, with a total combined attendance count of more than 11,000 guests.
- ★ Raina Fujitani headed up the revamp of our rental operations and began a marketing push for this service. Contracts and forms were revised into user-friendly formats; information was posted online; equipment and signage were updated; supervisors were appointed as point-persons for events; and staff training was held. A **new rental** package costs \$1,500 for staffing, tables and chairs for a party of up to 100 people.
- ★ Our **school programs** hosted 5,879 students and teachers in the Docent Program and 17, 285 overall.
- ★ More than 105 **teachers** joined us for Marine Educators' night with science demonstrations and outreach by 18 organizations that provide marine education and information.
- ★ It was a great year for the Community Education Program headed by Mary Roney. There were a lot more offerings (96 classes and activities) and they were well-attended by 2,695 people.
- ★ We were **on the cover** of *Hawaii Parent Magazine*. The February/March issue provided information on the Aquarium, which reached the publication's readership of 80,000 households with children up to age 12.

na'auao: knowledge

The Aquarium is home to roughly 3,540 specimens of Pacific marine life, which includes 223 species of fish and 262 species of invertebrate. Notable advances were made in coral propagation and conservation, studies of Hawaiian monk seal biology, and nautilus breeding and jellyfish culture.

- ★ **The Coral Ark Project** continued propagating several species of threatened and endangered Hawaiian corals.
- ★ The study of the **metabolism** of our two Hawaiian monk seal continues. Marine Mammal Coordinator Leah Kissel will analyze the data for publication as part of her Master's thesis.
- ★ Aquarist Mariko Katayama headed up the nautilus breeding project, which successfully **hatched** three juveniles this year. Almost 20 egg capsules remain unhatched.
- ★ Aquarist Norton Chan revamped the Kāne'ohe Bay exhibit to highlight the **threatened** Hawaiian irregular **rice coral**, *Montipora dilatata*.
- ★ Aquarist Kelley Niide continued the successful **propagation** of several species of jellyfish.
- ★ Education Director Sara Pelleteri attended a workshop hosted by Lawrence Hall of Science in Berkeley entitled "Communicating Ocean Science to Informal Audiences."

'imua: to progress

- ★ This was a time of **rejuvenation** for our buildings, which are more than 55 years old. We began a five-year repair and maintenance program by renovating the bathrooms, painting the building, upgrading the main power grid and doubling the potential capacity of our back-up generator, which will allow for future expansion.
- ★ **Conservation** was the word. The Aquarium reduced its electrical consumption on average by 250 kilo watt hours per day — this was an 8-10 percent reduction on our monthly electrical bill.
- ★ We purchased a Dodge Stratus, a newer, more-efficient vehicle.
- ★ A new FOWA logo incorporating the *lauwilinukunuku'oi'oi* and nautilus shell was incorporated into all stationery for member communications and mailings.
- ★ The **Spyball** camera was installed in Hunters on the Reef, giving operators a shark's-eye view.
- ★ A **new video** highlights our research on the irregular rice coral *Montipora dilatata* and the brachiopod *Lingula reevii*, both in declining numbers in Kāne'ohe Bay. A bearded armorhead video highlights our discoveries on the **unique feeding activity** of this species.
- ★ The classroom now sports an interactive coral reef wall funded by Alexander & Baldwin. It includes more than 210 Hawaiian reef animals made by Patti Gallagher-Jones and funded by a grant from Malama Hawaii.
- ★ The Education Department kicked off the new class Oceans Alive! aimed at 2- to 5-year-olds.

hana hou!

- ★ **Ke Kani O Ke Kai** 2008 welcomed more than 2,500 guests and some of the best in Island music: Kaukahi, Hapa, Jay Larrin and Jerry Santos, Eddie Kamae and Willie K. The 2009 series kicked off June 18 with a sold-out concert by The Brothers Cazimero. In 2009, we expanded our ticket purchasing options by partnering with the Honolulu Box Office.
- ★ **Shark! Family Night** on July 18 was attended by nearly 400 people, who enjoyed the shark games and crafts and a chance to talk with shark biologists and our own Gerald Crow, author of *Sharks and Rays of Hawaii*.
- ★ Dr. Andrew Rossiter took members on a virtual trek to Africa, Russia, Japan and Canada with his presentation at **Members' Night** on Nov. 9.
- ★ Love is in the air — and the water. Thirty-three couples enjoyed a candlelit dinner during **Seaduction** on Feb. 14. Ginniberrys caterers served up its delicious offerings with a sweet ending of chocolate and a gift from Tiffany.
- ★ On April 4, more than 600 children and their families hopped on over for the annual **SeaHunt**, sponsored by Kraft Foods in Hawai'i.
- ★ We celebrated **Earth Day** on April 11 with the help of more than 2,000 attendees and the sponsorship of the City & County Department of Environmental Services and the state Health Department.

mahalo!

- ★ We benefited from the help and enthusiasm of 259 active **volunteers**, who donated nearly 16,000 hours to our operations. Our warmest **mahalo** to them all.
- ★ The annual **Volunteer Appreciation Lunch** on May 9 was attended by approximately 90 people. They enjoyed a buffet at The Willows and we recognized our longest-serving volunteers. Ten of the 25 people recognized this year have been with the program 10 years or more. Diane Amuro was awarded for her 25th year of service.

FINANCIAL REPORT FY 2009

Aquarium attendance decreased by 4 percent for the year. However overall income decreased by less than 1 percent due to increases in grant and contributions (up 62 percent), education classes (up 24 percent) and an increase in the allotment from the State General Fund (up 14 percent). Areas experiencing declines are admissions (down 5 percent), FOWA membership dues (down 7 percent), gift shop transfers (down 8 percent), facility rentals (down 15 percent) and general fundraising (down 9 percent).

Overall expenditures decreased by almost 4 percent for the period mainly in the areas of repair and maintenance (down 28 percent), supplies (down 27 percent) and professional fees (down 20 percent). Other categories that experienced increases

are personnel costs (up 3 percent), general and administrative costs (up 11 percent), equipment purchases (up 21 percent) and printing and publications (up 28 percent).

Natural Selection Gift Shop sales decreased by 7 percent for the fiscal year, while expenses also were decreased by 4 percent, mainly due to a decrease in equipment, supplies and general administrative costs.

The Natural Selection Gift Shop at Hanauma Bay experienced its first negative return since implementation in 2002. Sales for the year were 8 percent behind the previous year. Expenses also decreased 11 percent, mainly due to a decrease in insurance, equipment, supplies and general administrative costs.

WAIKĪKĪ AQUARIUM COMBINED STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE Years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008			
	2009	2008	
REVENUES			
Admission fees	\$1,512,191	1,592,766	
Allotment - University of Hawai'i	731,664	643,769	
Grants and contributions	182,085	110,011	
Friends of the Waikiki Aquarium membership dues	145,741	156,869	
Transfer from Natural Selection gift shops	181,633	197,532	
Interest income	55,806	102,142	
Facility rental	148,152	174,991	
Fundraising	113,155	124,083	
Education	43,803	35,414	
Total revenues	3,114,230	3,137,577	
EXPENSES			
Personnel costs	1,997,771	1,944,467	
Repairs and Maintenance	270,169	375,557	
Supplies	203,857	278,725	
Utilities	340,717	348,904	
Marketing, Fundraising, Protocol	110,433	121,831	
Professional Services	90,334	112,620	
General and Administrative	56,468	50,767	
Furniture, fixtures, exhibits and equipment	137,551	113,632	
Printing and publications	44,292	34,640	
Total expenses	3,251,592	3,381,143	
Change in fund balance	(137,362)	(243,566)	
Fund balance at beginning of year	3,158,730	3,402,296	
Fund balance at end of year	\$3,021,368	3,158,730	

RESTRICTED & DESIGNATED FUNDS	
Fund balance at June 30, 2009:	
Waikiki Aquarium	\$3,021,368
Natural Selection Gift Shop	587,857
Natural Selection Gift Shop at Hanauma Bay	433,408
Less:	
Restricted funds held by:	
University of Hawai'i Foundation	(278,552)
Friends of the Waikiki Aquarium	(2,540,833)
Designated funds:	
Outdoor expansion - FYE 2012	(340,000)
Working capital for operations - Aquariums	(500,000)
Working capital for operations - Gift shops	(375,000)
Unrestricted and undesignated fund balance at June 30, 2009	\$ 8,248

Notes to Combined Financial Statements

The combined financial statements represent the unaudited results of operations on a modified cash basis of accounting for the Aquarium and includes funding from the following sources: University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, UH Foundation, Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i and the Friends of the Waikiki Aquarium.

The unaudited results of the Natural Selection Gift Shop's operations at the Waikiki Aquarium are presented in an accrual basis of accounting and are not a component of the Aquarium's combined financial statements. The shop contributes 20 percent of its gross sales to Aquarium operations.

The unaudited results of the Natural Selection Gift Shop at Hanauma Bay's operations are presented in an accrual basis of accounting and are not a component of the Aquarium's combined financial statements. The shop contributes 10 percent of its gross sales to Aquarium operations.

NATURAL SELECTION GIFT SHOP

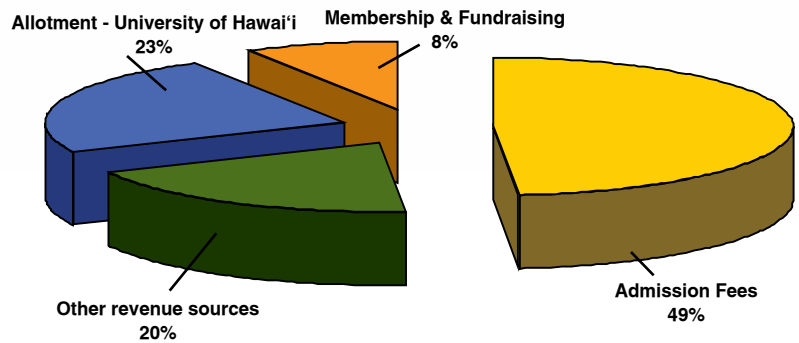
(A division of the Friends of the Waikiki Aquarium)

COMBINED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE Years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008

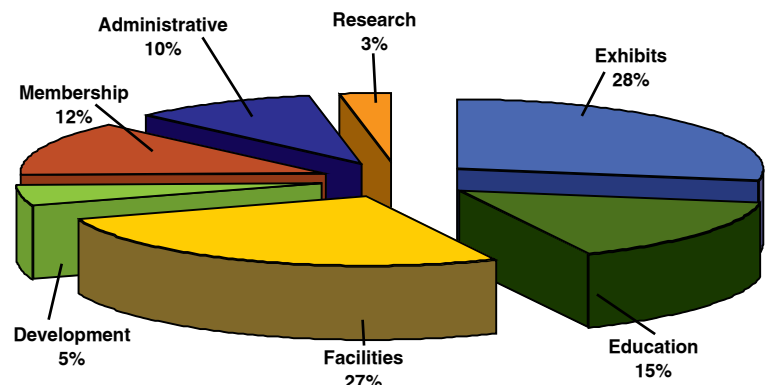
	2009	2008
REVENUES		
Sales	\$572,471	616,435
Cost of sales	239,234	257,937
Gross profit	333,237	358,498

EXPENSES		
Personnel costs	97,122	98,290
General Excise taxes	23,741	25,722
General and administrative	12,430	13,724
Equipment, supplies, maintenance & repairs	4,004	5,839
Insurance	2,109	2,019
Total expenses	139,406	145,594
Operating income	193,831	212,904
Interest income	6,696	6,769
Transfer to Waikiki Aquarium	(114,494)	(123,280)
Change in fund balance	86,033	96,393
Fund balance at beginning of year	501,824	405,431
Fund balance at end of year	\$587,857	501,824

REVENUE FYE 2009



EXPENSES FYE 2009



NATURAL SELECTION GIFT SHOP at HANAUMA BAY COMBINED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE Years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008

	2009	2008
REVENUES		
Sales	\$676,217	733,667
Cost of sales	299,088	325,296
Gross profit	377,129	408,371

EXPENSES		
Personnel costs	152,854	152,467
Commissions to City	67,130	74,266
Storage rental	5,631	5,180
General and administrative	11,828	21,161
Equipment, supplies, maintenance & repairs	4,944	10,631
Insurance	4,548	5,011
Taxes	-	10,000
Total expenses	246,935	278,716
Operating income	130,194	129,655
Interest income	8,387	14,497
Transfer to Waikiki Aquarium	(67,139)	(74,253)

Change in fund balance	71,442	69,899
Fund balance at beginning of year	361,966	292,067
Fund balance at end of year	\$433,408	361,966



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To inspire and promote understanding, appreciation and conservation of Pacific marine life.

Manta ray.
Photo: Jeffrey Kuwabara.

