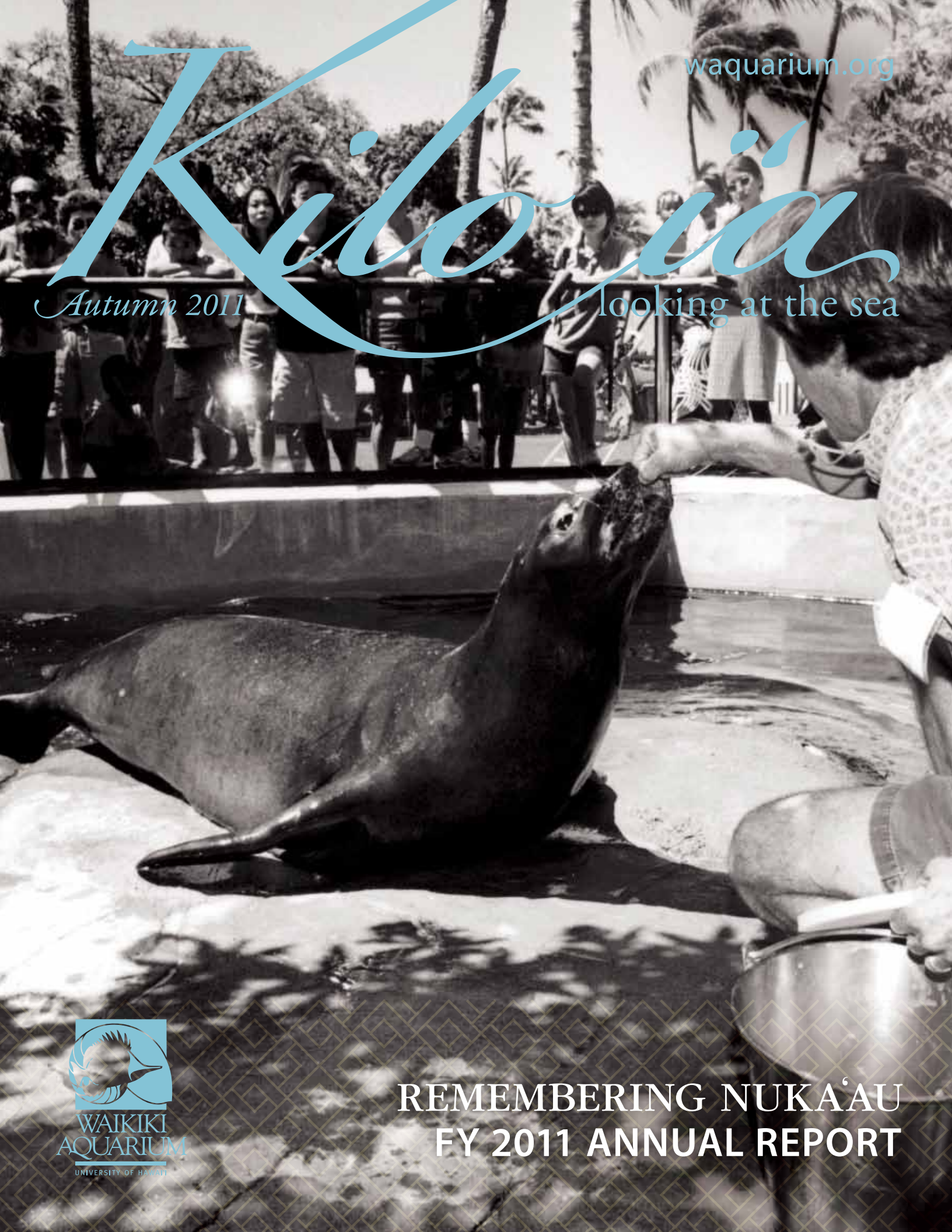


waquarium.org

Autumn 2011

looking at the sea



REMEMBERING NUKA'AU
FY 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

FROM THE DIRECTOR

As many of you will already know, one of the Waikiki Aquarium's resident Hawaiian monk seals has died. Nuka'au, commonly referred to as Nuka by Aquarium visitors and staff, was approximately 31 years old, more than 90 years in human terms.

When Nuka arrived at the Aquarium as a juvenile in 1983, he was sporting a large scar on his abdomen, possibly caused by an encounter with a shark or from entanglement in marine debris. It is doubtful he would have survived in the wild.

Instead, with the next 28 years of professional care and loving attention, Nuka provided millions of visitors and kama'āina alike with an up-close glance at Hawai'i's state mammal and one of the rarest seals in the world.

With its mission centered around research, education and conservation, the Aquarium is not in favor of keeping animals in captivity for entertainment purposes. During his time with us Nuka was involved in several research projects of Hawaiian monk seal biology. The projects are aimed at improving conservation efforts among the wild population of monk seals. Nuka also played a key role in tens of thousands of education presentations to the public. He was a true ambassador for his species and we have been privileged to have him as part of the Aquarium 'ohana. On page 4, we have gathered together the memories of some of those who have worked closely with Nuka over the years.

Unfortunately, due to Nuka's sudden and dramatic decline in health and quality of life, and with veterinary advice, we felt obligated to take the difficult decision to euthanize on Aug. 5. Surrounded by Aquarium staff, Nuka's passing was peaceful and painless. With his endearing charm, Nuka was a favorite among staff and visitors at the Waikiki Aquarium. He will be missed.



Dr. Andrew Rossiter
Director

Kilo iā

Issue Number 179 Autumn 2011

EDITOR Alice Keesing

ART DIRECTOR Kelsey Ige

PRINTING Electric Pencil

Kilo i'a is published quarterly by the University of Hawai'i and the Friends of Waikiki Aquarium and is dedicated to increasing the community's knowledge of the Waikiki Aquarium and Hawai'i's marine life.

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Cover: Nuka, Waikiki Aquarium archives

This page: Kelsey Ige



AQUASCAPING

Our Ornamental Aquaculture exhibit has taken on new life in recent months thanks to some expert help from Aquascapes, Hawai'i's freshwater fish and plant store in 'Aiea.

The old exhibit in Gallery 4 was having major algae problems. The algae was choking out the plants and creating an unhealthy environment for the fish. Aquarist Kelley Niide sought out Hawai'i's freshwater expert Jojo Raquel from Aquascapes, and he jumped at the opportunity to help out, donating his expertise, along with the new design and plants.

Now the exhibit is on a par with our saltwater exhibits and provides visitors with an artful aquascape that is that enchanting mix of terrestrial garden and underwater world. The lush plants and sculptural driftwood are home to several freshwater fishes, including hatchetfish, tetras, kuhli loaches and catfishes.



BRINGING THE NATIVE ALGAE



BACK TO WAIKIKI

This fall will herald a new chapter in reef restoration efforts in the Waikiki Marine Life Conservation District fronting the Aquarium. For nearly a decade, researchers and volunteers have been doing battle with invasive algae that are choking the reef. Now, they hope to advance the game and begin replanting native species.

The money to support the effort was secured by the Friends of Waikiki Aquarium from a Hawai'i Community Foundation grant from NOAA's Coastal Restoration Program.

"I am really excited about this partnership," says U.H. marine botanist Dr. Celia Smith, who heads up the efforts. "The Aquarium has such a valuable tradition and history in Waikiki and it also has a footprint into the future."

Invasive algae began to appear in Hawai'i around 30 to 50 years ago. One of the biggest offenders, *Acanthophora spicifera*, arrived on the bottom of a fuel barge from Guam more than 50 years ago. It, and other invasive species, have taken over Hawai'i reefs, resulting in huge ecosystem changes. Hawai'i's native fish generally avoid invasive algae, which means they don't "mow" the algae down to keep it in check, plus they lose their food source when the aliens choke out the natives.

The first algae clean-ups in the Waikiki MLCD began in 2002, and 100 tons of biomass has been hauled out over the years. One difficulty with removal efforts is that the invasives easily regrow from just a small fragment, and they sometimes reestablish themselves in just a matter of months.

With the new grant money, Smith and FOWA have been able to build sustainable new partnerships that encourage stewardship of the area. One new partner is the Honolulu Zoo, which takes all the removed algae for its compost heaps. Another exciting collaboration is growing with Jefferson Elementary, where Smith and her students will be getting fifth and sixth graders involved in the project.

And, in the fall, when the south swell dies down, Smith plans to begin the replanting efforts. Her hope is that native algae will be one piece in encouraging the return of a healthy, native ecosystem.

"When it comes to the invasive alga *Gracilaria*, most fish avoid it," she says. "But if we can get that native biomass back there, that's like French fries to them, so you would hope that it would start to attract the fish back into the area."

"These aliens have had a 30- or 40-year head start," she adds. "Waikiki desperately needs help. It's going to take a community to bring health back to Waikiki. This is just the first step, but I am not willing to not try."

To compare a healthy reef with an unhealthy reef, visit our interactive display by the Edge of the Reef.

Photo: Gorilla ogo (Gracilaria salicornia) by John M. Huisman

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, November 13

Get ready to saddle up for **Members' Night**. This year it's all about seahorses, seadragons and pipefishes. Paula Branshaw Carlson, the director of husbandry at the Dallas World Aquarium, will be here to talk to us about those amazing syngnathids. Bring your family and a picnic and enjoy an evening on the lawn. Soft drinks and dessert are on us.

The FOWA annual meeting kicks off the evening at 5 p.m. and the doors and exhibits open at 6 p.m.





Remembering **NUKA**

For close to three decades,
Nuka was a star member of the Waikīkī Aquarium 'ohana.



N

uka'au arrived at the Waikiki Aquarium 28 years ago, a skinny, young monk seal with a penchant for frisky behavior. He had a large scar on his belly that may have come from a run-in with a shark or marine debris, and researchers doubted that he would survive in the wild. And so the Aquarium became his home.

That skinny young monk seal grew into a mature, 400-pound animal and Nuka endeared himself to thousands of people over the years. The Aquarium lost one of its 'ohana when he passed away on Aug. 5 at the age of 31.

Reid Withrow was the aquarist who undertook Nuka's care when he came to the Aquarium in 1983. Right from the get-go, it was obvious this was an animal with a large curiosity.

"He always showed interest in what was going on outside his exhibit," Withrow remembers. "There was one time we were working in the pump room and Nuka had his face pressed up against the viewing window — it was very amusing because he was obviously very intent on figuring out what was going on in there."

While monk seals spend a large part of their days doing, well, not much — perhaps some sunbathing and lolling in the water — Nuka could get quite vocal during training sessions and he also had a certain knack for creativity. When he was given a buoy with a rope, he would pull it to the bottom of the pool with his flipper, then let it go so it would shoot to the surface.

"He was a wonderful ambassador," Withrow says. "People just loved to watch him."

Eileen Awai, who has volunteered at the Aquarium for 25 years, also remembers Nuka when he was a younger, more kolohe, monk seal.

"He was a rascal," she says. "I remember there was an event on the lawn one night and I was standing near the side of the pool and I felt water on me — and there was Nuka splashing water at me to get my attention."

Even after he bulled up and reached full size, Nuka was always an easy and amenable animal to work with. Aquarist Leah Kissel, who worked most closely with him in recent years, says he was a very smart monk seal, who appeared to enjoy training and enrichment.

"I know we're not supposed to anthropomorphize," she says, "but he just reminded me of an older, Southern gentleman — he was always thoughtful and always gentle."

Nuka slowed down in his later years, his muzzle greyed and he wasn't quite so active. But he always kept that curiosity and apparent thoughtfulness.

Kissel remembers when she began her research on the flora in the monk seals' nasal cavities; the research meant taking regular swabs from the monk seals' nostrils with a large Q-tip.

"The first time I put the swab in, his eyes just went wide as saucers and he jerked his head away," she says. "He blew the swab out, and it started to sink in the water. He looked at it and then went and got it and picked it up in his mouth and practically threw it out onto the rocks at me. He didn't want it in his pool and he understood it wasn't supposed to be in there. Maka, our other monk seal, would have just swallowed it."

Over the years, Nuka rescued many objects that visitors inadvertently dropped into the pool, from hats to sunglasses to audio tours; if Kissel was around, he would take the found objects directly to her.

Two years ago Nuka's health began to decline due to age-related illnesses. When he was moved from the monk seal pool for the last time, Kissel watched as he and Maka paused for a moment to touch muzzles. It was an extraordinary gesture between the pair, whose relationship was typified by Nuka's dominant position and Maka's best attempts to stay out of the way. It did, indeed, look like a goodbye.

Aquarium staff and the U.H. vet worked closely to manage Nuka's care behind the scenes, but there came a day in August when Kissel could see that the fight had gone out of him. After consultation with the vet, the difficult decision to euthanize Nuka was made. There was not a dry eye as Aquarium staff gathered around and bowed heads for a Hawaiian blessing.

Nuka, you are missed.

Photos: Shannon Westman, Alice Keesing and Kelsey Ige



AU

KE KANI O KE KAI

The Waikiki Aquarium stage was set ablaze again this summer with the hot sounds of some of Hawai'i's finest entertainers. Jake Shimabukuro kicked off this memorable concert series and was followed by Olomana, Amy Hanaiali'i, Nā Palapalai with Mailani and the Brothers Cazimero.

Ono kine grinds for our guests came from our restaurant partners Yama's Fish Market, Hula Grill Waikiki, Big City Diner and Kahai Street Kitchen.

Warmest thanks to the series' presenting sponsor Outrigger Hotels & Resorts. Also our thanks to sponsors Pepsi, Hawaiian Airlines, JMJ Rentals, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, Kona Brewing Company, HonBlue, Alexander & Baldwin Foundation, Aloha Petroleum, Becker Communications, Hawai'i Dental Service, Kualoa Ranch and Servco Foundation. The Aquarium is also grateful to Barefoot Wines and HASR Wine Co. for their support. We would also like to acknowledge the support of Styrophobia, which provided the biodegradable serving ware for the concerts, helping us keep waste to a minimum.

We are happy to say that most of the concerts this year were sellouts — thank you to all our concert-goers. Net proceeds from the series will fund the second phase of a photovoltaic system at the Waikiki Aquarium.

Photos: Kelsey Ige



MEET THE MOLLUSCS

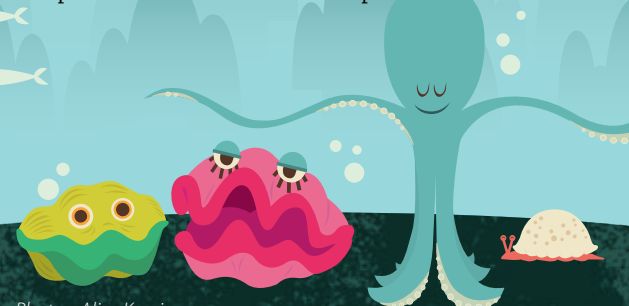
Hundreds of people joined us for Family Night on Aug. 26 and came face to shell with a multitude of molluscs. For many, it was a first-time encounter with oddities such as the sea hare, a mollusc with two long rhinophores that look just like the long ears of a rabbit.

The Hawai'i Hyperbolic Reef Project greeted guests in the entry foyer with a coral reef crocheted from yarn and other creative materials such as marine debris.

The crowd explored the shells, beaks and other body parts that belong to the molluscs and talked with experts such as Dr. J.P. Bingham, who was there with his live cone snails. Bingham also fascinated an audience in the classroom with his presentation on "Killer slugs that make drugs."

Dr. Anuschka Faucci brought nudibranchs and their beautiful rosette-shaped egg masses. And U.H. graduate student Heather Ylitalo-Ward was accompanied by a live octopus to show how these animals blend in with their environment.

The keiki took in an octopus puppet show, tried their hand at crafting their own octopuses and squids, figured out puzzles at the octopus enrichment station — and enjoyed their nautilus cookies compliments of Hokulani Bakeshop.



Photos: Alice Keesing

GRAND OPENING

More than 200 members joined us for the official opening of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands exhibit in August. They were among the first to see the new attraction, which features many fishes and corals that have never been exhibited before, including some newly discovered coral species.

NEW

SAY IT IN THE *Kilo i'a*

Starting with our next issue, we are offering advertising space in the *Kilo i'a*. For decades, our quarterly member magazine has shared Aquarium events, news and education with our many members and the wider community.

We invite you to be a part of our signature publication and reach more than 7,500 people who are families, grandparents, marine life enthusiasts, researchers, party planners and community leaders.

Rates start at \$175 per issue. Contact Raina Fujitani at 440-9008 or email rainam@hawaii.edu for more details.



CLASSES & ACTIVITIES

October - December 2011

Marine Munchies

Oct 24, Mon 4:30-6:00 p.m.
Nov 14, Mon 4:30-6:00 p.m.
Nov 21, Mon 4:30-6:00 p.m.
Dec 19, Mon 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).

Exploring the Reef at Night

Oct 26, Wed 6:00-8:30 p.m.
Nov 23, Wed 6:30-9:00 p.m.
Dec 9, Fri 6:30-9:00 p.m.
Dec 23, Fri 6:30-9:00 p.m.
Jan 7, Sat 6:30-9:00 p.m.

For an experience you'll not forget, 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 octopuses. 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, Fri Veterans Day 10:00-noon

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 are provided. An adult-child program for ages 6 and up. \$9/person (\$14/person for non-members).

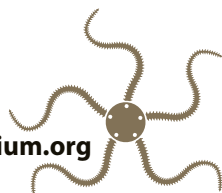
Fish Watchers

Nov. 29, Tu & Dec. 1, Th classroom 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Dec. 3, Sat optional fieldtrip 8:30-11:00 a.m.

Join us for a new class that explores the fascinating lives of Hawaiian fishes. Fish Watchers is created for those who get in the water regularly and are looking for some deeper insight into what they see. Your guide is U.H. fish expert Michael Burns, who will share his enthusiasm for the fishes that live on Hawai'i's reefs — from the fascinating to the downright weird. Fish Watchers begins with two classroom sessions and wraps up with an optional snorkeling fieldtrip. For fish watchers 16 years and older. \$15/person for two classroom sessions; \$10/person for the fieldtrip (\$20 and \$10 for non-members).

Look for class updates on: www.waquarium.org

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED



Activity Registration Form

NAME(S)

Adults _____ Phone (home) _____
Children/Ages _____ Phone (work) _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____ Email _____

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



Photo: Jeff Kuwabara

NEW

FISH WATCHERS

Not your regular ichthyology 101

When you're out there with your mask and snorkel, have you ever wondered exactly why that damselfish is barking at you? Or why the raccoon butterflyfishes gather in large groups in the evening?

In November, University of Hawai'i fish expert Michael Burns joins the Waikiki Aquarium for a new class that shines a light on the fascinating lives of Hawaiian fishes. This is not ichthyology 101; rather it is an enthusiasts' exploration of the cool stuff that you see when you are in the water.

Burns will share how — and why — Hawaiian fish are made the way they are, from the buckteeth on parrotfishes, to the feeding barbels on goatfishes to the hash lines on threadfin butterflyfishes.

He'll then uncover some of the absolutely fascinating details of reef life, from the sex-changing behaviors in wrasse harems to the grunting of triggerfish. Burns will show you the big picture and how all this behavior adds up to shape community life on the reef.

Fish Watchers begins in the classroom, but then we get out where it all happens with a snorkeling fieldtrip. The view through your mask will never be the same.

See page 7 for more information.

BTW, you are probably dying to know: Damselfishes bark when they are guarding their nests.

CLASSROOM DEDICATION

Our classroom recently underwent a makeover thanks to a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. With new chairs, new cabinets, new whiteboard, new ceiling and extensive paint-work, the classroom is looking like a whole new space.

New dimmable lights make it easier to see during videos and slide-shows. Plus we have a new microscopy unit, which is a boon for training.

"It looks 20 times better," says School Programs Coordinator Dean Spencer. "Now everyone wants to use it."

Shown at the classroom dedication in August (from l. to r.) are NOAA's Allen Tom and Andy Winer with the Aquarium's Dr. Andrew Rossiter and Dean Spencer.



Class Registration Information

- » Pre-registration is required for all activities.
- » FOWA members are allowed up to four total registrants at FOWA rate.
- » Questions about the activities? Call the Waikiki Aquarium Education Department at 440-9007.
- » 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, Mastercard and JCB 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, Mastercard and JCB are also accepted.

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

Waikiki Aquarium Education Department
2777 Kalākaua Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96815

FISCAL YEAR 2011

ANNUAL REPORT SUPPLEMENT

Photo: Jeff Kuwabara

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



An annual message that transcends the past, the present and the future...

After six years of planning, fundraising and construction, our new Northwestern Hawaiian Islands exhibit finally neared completion at the end of this fiscal year. Already impressive in its display of corals, and housing some unique species of fish, the exhibit will only get better. As the thin patina of life gradually colonizes the rock surfaces, as more fishes are added, and as the corals grow upward and

outward, the exhibit will grow in depth and breadth and richness. As a FOWA member, you can check out its development as often as you want.

As noted in this issue of the *Kilo i'a*, we recently lost Nuka, one of our resident Hawaiian monk seals. He will be dearly missed. However, sometime later this year we should have a new addition to the Aquarium: another Hawaiian monk seal.

Long before Nuka's passing we were in discussions with federal authorities about providing a home for Ho'ailona, better known as KP2. It is important to note that this is not a case of our looking for a seal to replace Nuka: we had intended to provide a home for KP2 irrespective.

Ho'ailona was born on Kaua'i and abandoned by his mother soon after birth. He was rescued and raised by National Marine Fisheries Service staff before being returned to the wild. Unfortunately, KP2 interacted with humans, who provided him with food, and he became habituated to people. In 2009, in the interests of safety for the public and the seal, KP2 was removed from the wild and housed at the Waikiki Aquarium for several weeks while a home was sought for him.

In the course of a medical examination it was discovered that KP2 has very poor eyesight caused by cataracts. He has spent the last two years in a marine mammal facility in California, receiving veterinary care and is now ready to come home to Hawai'i. KP2 cannot be released back into the wild — his poor eyesight and his habituation to humans means he would likely not survive. So the Aquarium warmly welcomes KP2 to its family, and we welcome you to come and see him on his arrival.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Rossiter". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "A" and a cursive "Rossiter".

Dr. Andrew Rossiter
Director

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR, *Friends of Waikiki Aquarium*



Friends of Waikiki Aquarium is a nonprofit organization that devotes its resources to helping the Waikiki Aquarium accomplish its important mission of education and conservation. The Board of Directors thanks you for your continued support, which has made possible another outstanding year.

The Board of Directors regularly discusses with Director, Dr. Andy Rossiter, a range of possible improvements to the facility, educational programs and exhibits. To that end, back behind the scenes sits a

collection of potential future exhibits, which take not only financial resources, but sometimes years of hands-on preparation and experimentation before they are ready to roll out for public viewing.

This year culminated with the finishing of the new Northwestern Hawaiian Islands exhibit, which you will definitely want to come

down and view for yourself. Standing in front of the huge tank and watching the unique marine life on display, it is easy to appreciate how this exhibit will help fulfill the Aquarium's mission of "inspiring and promoting an understanding, appreciation and conservation of Pacific marine life."

As you visit the facility, you will also proudly see that all the exhibits remain healthy, vibrant and engaging. As has been said many times before, we may be small in size, but we are world-class in quality.

Financially, the volunteer Board of Directors of the Friends of Waikiki Aquarium has done an outstanding job of maintaining a healthy balance sheet and making sure that your contributions are put to their very best use.

Once again, we are most grateful for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles R. Kelley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "C".

Charles R. Kelley M.D.
Chair, Friends of Waikiki Aquarium

FISCAL YEAR 2011 HIGHLIGHTS

Kōkua: Reaching Out

- » Our **school programs** hosted 6,133 students and teachers in the Docent Program and 23,598 group reservations.
- » The **Community Enrichment Program's** fun educational programs reached 2,070 people (adults and children through age 16).
- » With the support of donations, the Education Department offered **free docent programs**, tours, educational materials, transportation and lunches to 390 underprivileged families and 1,400 students from Title 1 schools.
- » In February, we hosted the Aloha Koi Appreciation Society's 4th annual **Koi Show**, a unique opportunity to view some of the most beautiful and valued koi in Hawai'i and learn about the art of koi-raising.
- » The **Hawai'i Government Employees Association Day** at the Waikiki Aquarium in June hosted more than 1,300 members from one of the state's largest government employee organizations. The event showcased the different occupations of HGEA members with activities for both young and old.
- » In June we also held **Military Day**. More than 4,100 guests visited the Aquarium for the USO-hosted event, which included day-long entertainment, activities and fun.
- » Our **facility rental program** hosted more than 70 private events, which were attended by more than 11,000 people. In addition to private weddings, birthdays and graduations, the Aquarium hosted the Hawai'i Conservation Conference, Duke Kahanamoku Foundation's Great Hawaiian KINE luau, Saint Clements School, the Honolulu Veterinarian Society, the American Geophysical Union, Surfrider Foundation, Variety School, Hawai'i Association of College Counseling, Hawai'i Nurses Association, Outrigger Hotels & Resorts, UH Children's Center, The Crustacean Society, the U.S. Green Building Council and more.
- » The Membership and Education departments joined the Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau at the **Pacific Islander Festival** at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach, Calif. The two-day festival showcased the many Pacific island destinations with interactive crafts, activities and entertainment from the various regions.
- » 'Tis the season: We sold 28 **Christmas gift** memberships, surpassing the 2009 total.
- » We continued to offer discounted memberships to **UH Federal Credit Union** members. The credit union displays Aquarium flyers in its customer service area.
- » An August promotion with **Pepsi** offered free junior admission with a paid adult or \$5 off members (Family, Family Plus or Grandparents levels). A coupon sheet was inserted into every Pepsi case from August through the end of the year.
- » We formed a reciprocal agreement with the **Maui Ocean Center** offering FOWA members 50 percent off the center's regular admission rates.
- » FOWA **membership benefits** were established with various businesses, restaurants and organizations, including Coral Fish Hawai'i, Hard Rock Café, HASR Wine Co., Hawai'i Self Storage, Kalihi Pet Center, Lucoral Museum, Terry's Place and Waikiki Diving Center.

Mahalo

- » Our volunteers continue their invaluable work at the Aquarium. This year, 353 active volunteers donated more than 17,000 hours to our operations. We could not do it without you — our sincerest thanks to you all.

'Imua: To Progress

- » Aquarist Rick Klobuchar traveled to the **Northwestern Hawaiian Islands** to collect fishes and corals for our new NWHI exhibit.
- » We designed and built a new **quarantine** holding area behind the scenes.
- » We conducted the first detailed **respiratory bacteriological study** on the endangered Hawaiian monk seal. Our partners were Diagnostic Laboratory Services and the John A. Burns School of Medicine. The research is published in *Aquatic Mammals* volume 37 pages 377-385.
- » Aquarist Leah Kissel earned her **master's degree**. Her thesis title was "Impact of Season and Diet on Hawaiian Monk Seal (*Monachus schauinslandi*) Nutrient Intake and Digestibility, Changes in Mass and Blubber Depth, and their Relationship to Molt."
- » We completed our new **Hawaiian Cultural Garden** featuring more than 30 native plants and highlighting the ancient cultural links between land and sea. The project received funding from the Kaulunani Urban and Community Forestry grant program, Iliahi Foundation and Hui Kū Maoli Ola.
- » We partnered with Event Photo Solutions to create a **Photo Magic Booth** for Aquarium visitors.
- » Our **repair and maintenance** program continued with additional roofing work over the classroom and foyer, renovations in the staff bathrooms, a new kitchen floor and improvements to the ice machine.
- » A special **lighting feature** that simulates rippling water was added to the foyer ceiling and we installed LEDs to enhance the outdoor lighting in the trees.
- » The Education Department successfully tested the Waikiki Aquarium's **"WATER" Program outdoor labs**, which caters to upper elementary and middle schools.
- » The **Marine Munchies** class was offered in Japanese.
- » We began offering Waikiki Aquarium Uncovered! private tours for groups.
- » **Online membership registration** became available in October, offering a more convenient option when paying by credit card. As of June 30, 2011, we had received more than 250 memberships online.

Hana Hou!

- » **SeaHunt** was a hopping success. On April 16, more than 1,500 people joined us to celebrate the Easter season. Thank you to Diamond Bakery, McDonalds, GP Roadway, 212Com Media Solutions, HDS, Crayola and NOAA for their support.
- » **Ke Kani O Ke Kai 2010** concerts featured Makana, Willie K, Amy Hanaiali'i and Ho'okena.
- » The first concert in the Ke Kani O Ke Kai 2011 concert series featuring **Jake Shimabukuro** was a sell-out. Expanded seating capacity on the lawn allowed us to maximize attendance; proceeds will go toward the second phase of a photovoltaic system.
- » More than 300 people joined a crusty crowd for **Family Night** on Aug. 27. They enjoyed talking with the crustacean experts, watching the puppet show, making their own crab claws and chasing bubble "food" on the lawn.
- » **Members' Night** on Nov. 14 gave guests a sneak peek at the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands exhibit in development behind the scenes. Dr. Rob Toonen from the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology gave a presentation on his research in the NWHI.

FINANCIAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2011

Previous annual financial reports have been presented for the Aquarium as a whole and have included funding received from the University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, UH Foundation and the Research Corporation of University of Hawai'i. While none of these funds are comingled with Friends of Waikiki Aquarium funding, for the purpose of clarity we have chosen not to include them as part of the FOWA Financial Report for FY2011 and future reports. Consequently, from this year forward, annual reports will include only FOWA-related fund transactions, including those relating to the Natural Selection Gift Shop, which is managed by FOWA.

In these tough economic times, we are happy to report that in FY2010-11 the overall revenue increased by 51 percent. Across the board increases were seen in every budget category except Donations (down 32 percent) and Vending Machines (down 30 percent). There was a 90 percent increase in Grants, Event Sales were up 75 percent, and the biggest percent increases were seen in Interest (up 146 percent) and Investment (up 189 percent). Increased "Investment" and "Interest" can be attributed to market gains and a change in financial management companies to Alliance Bernstein. It should also be noted that the Penny Machine

agreement was terminated during FY2010 and put out to bid under state guidelines, and those

revenues are now going directly to the Waikiki Aquarium Special Fund.

We also saw a 59 percent increase in Overall Expenditures, which was mainly due to a 630 percent increase in Grant expenditures, but these monies are offset on the revenue side. Events and Investments expenditures were both up by 60 percent. In general, expenditures were up across all budget categories except Other Expenditures (miscellaneous items), which were down 53 percent. Additionally, FOWA contributions to Capital Improvement Projects were down 1 percent. These projects included, but were not limited to, the nautilus breeding program, jellyfish shed extension and the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands exhibit.

The unaudited results of the Natural Selection Gift Shop's operations at the Waikiki Aquarium are presented on an accrual basis. The gift shop fund balance is up 16 percent over last fiscal year. Revenues were up 32 percent, but expenditures were also up 56 percent. Year-on-year photo booth sales showed a significant increase, partly a reflection of the recent change of photo booth vendors. Expenditures for Professional Fees (photo booth operations) were substantially greater for the same reason.

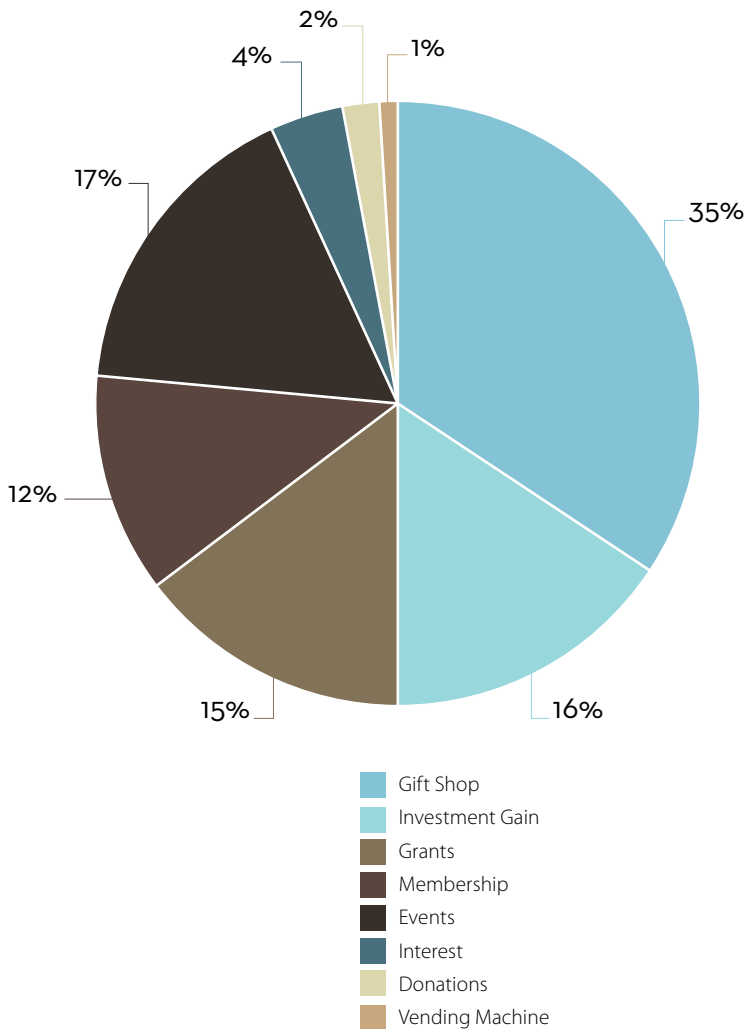
CONSOLIDATED FUND BALANCE Years ended June 30, 2011 and 2010

FUND BALANCE	FY 2011	FY 2010
Restricted	\$370,484	305,839
Non-restricted	2,527,236	2,039,331
Total Fund Balance	\$2,897,720	2,345,170
CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	FY 2011	FY 2010
2010 Fund Balance	\$2,345,170	1,952,975
2011 Revenues	1,257,412	834,792
2011 Expenditures	704,862	442,598
2011 Fund Balance	\$2,897,720	2,345,170

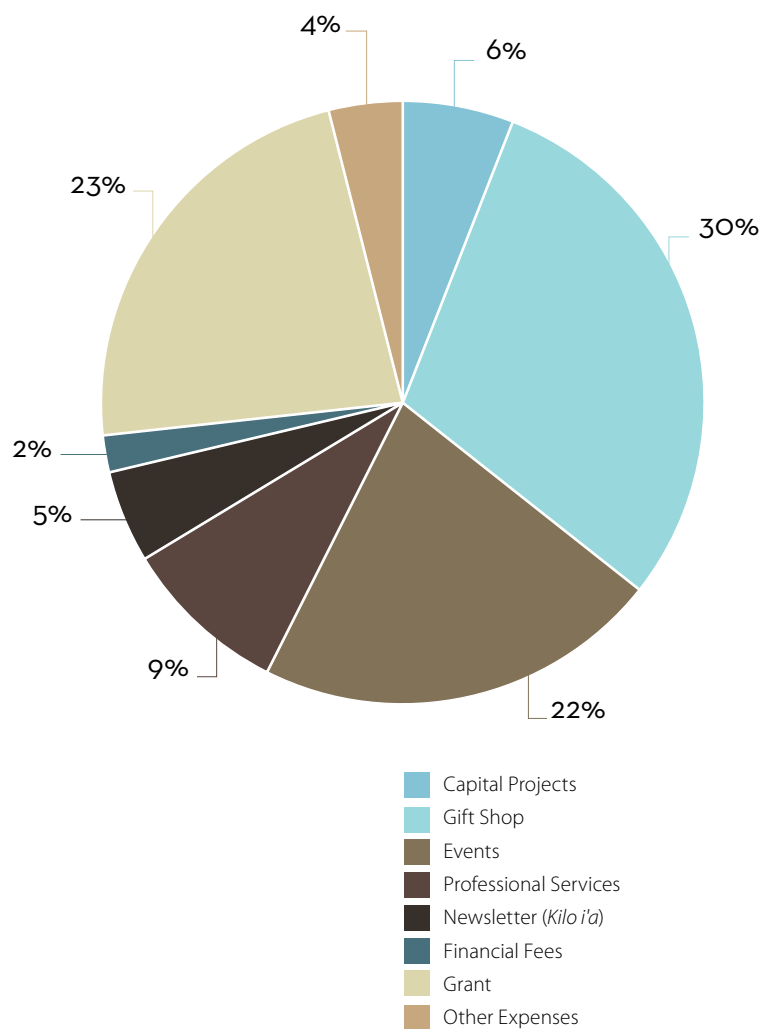
NATURAL SELECTION GIFT SHOP COMBINED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE Years ended June 30, 2011 and 2010

REVENUES	FY 2011	FY 2010
Sales	\$568,049	564,081
Cost of Goods Sold	(238,715)	(248,574)
Photo Booth	96,769	1,940
Investment Gain (Loss)	5,928	8,092
Interest	4,008	2,139
Penny Machine	-	1,745
Gross Revenues	\$436,038	329,423
EXPENSES	FY 2011	FY 2010
Personnel Cost	\$86,882	85,722
Professional Fees	66,350	418
General Excise Taxes	28,853	24,073
Bank Service Fee	10,617	8,565
Equipment, Supplies, Repair & Maintenance	6,401	7,115
Fire Insurance	2,430	2,287
Other Expenditures	6,599	4,834
Total Expenditures	208,133	133,013
Net Income (Loss)	227,906	196,410
Fund Balance		
Ending Fund Balance	1,003,566	775,660
Beginning Fund Balance	775,660	579,250
Change in Fund Balance	\$227,906	196,410

REVENUE Fiscal year 2011



EXPENDITURES Fiscal year 2011



FRIENDS OF WAIKĪKĪ AQUARIUM COMBINED STATEMENTS OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE Years ended June 30, 2011 and 2010

REVENUES	FY 2011	FY 2010	EXPENDITURES	FY 2011	FY 2010
Gift Shop	\$436,038	329,423	Gift Shop	\$208,133	133,013
Investment Gain (Loss)	196,836	68,010	Events	154,130	96,151
Grants	184,394	97,147	Grants	160,870	22,032
Membership	147,125	144,963	Professional Services	66,142	53,658
Events			Capital Projects	40,584	41,116
Sponsorship	69,454	46,938	Newsletter (Kilo i'a)	34,274	32,330
Sales	144,159	82,265	Financial		
Interest	47,397	19,302	Investment	11,335	7,100
Donations	22,760	33,541	Bank	3,047	3,031
Vending Machine	9,250	13,203	Other Expenditures	26,347	54,167
Gross Revenues	\$1,257,412	834,792	Total Expenditures	\$704,862	442,598

WALL of FAME

The beautiful exhibits at the Waikiki Aquarium and the valuable research and conservation efforts that go on behind the scenes and in the classroom are the result of the work of many. Here we recognize those who support us through their generous donations. Our mahalo to all those who believe in what we do.

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The Waikiki Aquarium's Mission:

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

A dazzling crochet reef made an appearance at Family Night in August. The crafty reef was a satellite of The Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef, a woolly celebration of the intersection of higher geometry and feminine handicraft, and a testimony to the disappearing wonders of the marine world. You can find out more at www.crochetcoralreef.org.