

SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

MAUI'S VOLUNTEER
NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the new volunteer newsletter. Its purpose is to keep you current on what we have been doing and what is planned for the near future. If you would like to submit an article or photo for future editions, please email [Flo Bahr](mailto:FloBahr). We would be happy to see your contributions of volunteer activities, etc.

COUNCIL CORNER Maui Marine Sanctuary Volunteer Council *By Flo Bahr*

We now have a volunteer council that will assist the Sanctuary with management of the volunteer program. Here is a little information for your benefit to learn what they do and who to contact in each area, the five members are ready to help you.

Their mission statement tells that they are a dedicated group of experienced volunteers for the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary that acts as liaison between the Sanctuary staff and volunteer membership. The council mission is to support recruitment, training, scheduling and oversight of volunteer activities. They work together to preserve, protect and promote good stewardship of the Hawaiian marine ecosystem and Hawaiian culture.

There are several branches with a coordinator for different groups. They are:

***Campus Coordinator - Laura Gahr**

Email: lauragahr@hotmail.com

* 45-Ton Whale Talk * Coral Reef Talk * Visitor Center

***Outreach Coordinator - Jeep Dunning**

Email: mauijeep@gmail.com

*School Groups * Outreach events

***Foundation Coordinator - Desiree Paez**

Email: desirejewl@aol.com

*Visitor Center Store * Foundation

***Administrative Coordinator - Flo Bahr**

Email: FloB2@aol.com

*Office Support * Newsletter * Volunteer Hours * Promotion/Advertising * Volunteer Data Base

***Citizen Scientist Coordinator - Robyn Walters**

Email: robynw@hawaiiiantel.net

*Water Quality * Turtle Stranding * Landscaping

If you have an interest or a question, please email the coordinator of the appropriate area listed above.

<p>Cultural Corner <i>Common Hawaiian words, and basic pronunciation of the Hawaiian alphabet.</i> Page 2</p>	<p>Whales <i>Quick humpback whale facts. Why is fifteen an important number to the humpback?</i> Page 2</p>	<p>Whale Day <i>Maui's celebration of its favorite visitors, the humpback whales.</i> <i>By Samantha Taylor</i> Page 3</p>	<p>Turtles <i>Information on the turtle stranding program and facts about the Hawaiian green sea turtle.</i> Page 3</p>	<p>Calendar <i>Lectures, upcoming events and educational opportunities.</i> Page 4</p>
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LAYOUT AND DESIGN BY PATTI OSBORNE

SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

CULTURAL CORNER

What did he say? Some common Hawaiian words!

Kokua: Help. "I need your kind *kokua*."

Kuleana: Responsibility. "That job is my *kuleana*."

Mana'o: Thought. "We can rely on his *mana'o* to figure it out."

Malama: Take care of, preserve. "Malama our resources."

Aina: Land. "Take care of the *aina*."

The Hawaiian Alphabet

- A as in father
- E as in bait
- I as in beet
- O as in boat
- U as in boot
- P as in spin
- K as in skin
- H as in house
- M as in mat
- N as in no
- L as in lie
- W as in very/wear



Hula is a dance

accompanied by a chant (oli) or song (mele). The hula portrays the words of the oli or mele in a dance form.

Quick Humpback Whale Facts

•The humpback whale is "endangered" throughout its region (all major oceans) according to the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

•It is a "baleen" whale which means no teeth, baleen acts as a filter for small fish.

•They migrate from Alaska to Hawaii (3000 miles in about 2 months) to breed and give birth.

•Adult females are larger than males. Males are the singers, although new data suggests mothers and calves use verbal communication as well. They sing both here and in Alaska.

•Gestation is 11 months. Calves stay with moms for about a year and may return with mom.

•They feed in Alaska and can consume up to 3,000 pounds of food a day, mostly krill, plankton and small fish.

•Fifteen is an important number. Newborns are about 15 feet long. Flukes are about 15 feet long.

•Pectoral fins are about 15 feet long. Bodies are about 3x15 or 45 feet long.

•There are about 20,000 humpback whales in the North Pacific. They are increasing in numbers.



Photo by Patti Osborne



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WHALE DAY AT KALAMA PARK

By Samantha Taylor

The annual Whale Day at Kalama Park is an opportunity for people to come together to celebrate Hawaii's favorite yearly visitors, the magnificent humpback whales. Our sanctuary had a strong presence in Eco Alley, where the non-profits united to educate and inform the public of the importance of protecting and preserving our marine life and its ocean habitat.

A group of keiki gathered around Donna Rolens, a sanctuary volunteer, as she spoke about the whales and handed out free information. Judy Lauridsen's smile spread to the faces of young and old as she walked visitors through, "Are you Smarter than A 5th Grade Humpback Whale," an activity that was entertaining and educational. As Judy passed on her knowledge she said, "It is critical we teach our young people, who will protect marine life in the future. Early education will make them strong stewards of the oceans tomorrow."

Larry Boysen, a sanctuary volunteer, coordinated our Whale Day booth, one of the highlights of Eco Alley. He saw this as an opportunity for the non-profit organizations to come together for the community. As he worked tirelessly to get the message to the public he remarked on the importance of the volunteers in making one of the biggest yearly events on Maui possible. "The volunteers are here early to set up, they spend all day working to make sure the event is a success and they stay late to clean up as well. Without them this day would not be possible." It is important to remember that sanctuary volunteers work tirelessly all year to protect those who we honor on this day, the majestic humpback whales.



Larry Boysen and Judy Lauridsen (above) and Donna Rolens (below) at our Whale Day booth in Kīhei.



Photos by Samantha Taylor

Marine Turtle Stranding Network

South Maui Marine Turtle Stranding Network Volunteers are specially trained, on-call volunteers that respond to reports of stranded or injured turtles along South Maui beaches from Ma'alaea to Makena. Volunteers carry a pager for the South Maui area, the number is (808)872-5190

Hawaiian Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)

Adult green turtles are unique among sea turtles in that they eat only plants; they are herbivorous, feeding primarily on sea grasses and algae. This diet is thought to give them greenish colored fat, from which they take their name.

During nesting season, females nest at approximately two week intervals. They lay an average of five nests, or "clutches." After emerging from the nest the hatchlings swim to offshore areas where they are believed to live for several years, feeding close to the surface on a variety of [pelagic](#) plants and animals. Once the juveniles reach a certain age/size range, they leave the pelagic habitat and travel to nearshore foraging grounds, or [benthic](#) habitats. The Hawaiian green sea turtles primarily use three types of habitat;

- beaches for nesting
- open ocean convergence zones
- coastal areas for benthic feeding



Photo by Joshua W. Greenburg

The Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle

- **The Hawaiian Name is Honu.*
- **Green turtles are the largest of all the hard shelled turtles.*
- **Females migrate from foraging areas to nesting beaches and may travel hundreds or thousands of kilometers each way.*
- **Under the ESA green turtles are endangered in Florida and the Pacific coast of Mexico, all other populations are listed as threatened.*



SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

MARCH 2012

*South Maui Events in Brown * West Maui Events in Blue * MOC Events in Green *

South Maui <i>Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale</i> <i>National Marine Sanctuary</i> 726 South Kihei Road, Kihei, HI 96753 (808) 879-2818	West Maui <i>Whaler Village Shopping Center -</i> <i>Whalers Museum</i> 2435 Ka'anapali Parkway Lahaina, HI 96761 (808) 661-4567	Maui Ocean Center 192 Maalaea Rd, Wailuku, HI 96793 (808) 270-7000 <i>Admission Required</i>
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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	2/28/12 Volunteer Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	2/29/12 Sentinal Turtles 10:00am -12:00	1 45 Ton Talk 11am & 7 pm 11am & 2 pm Whale Station 9am-1pm	2 45 Ton Talk 11:00 am Whale Talk 11am & 2 pm	3 Whale Talk 11am & 2 pm	4
5 Coral Reefs 2:00 pm Whale Station 9am-1pm	6 45 Ton Talk 11:00 am	7	8 45 Ton Talk 11am & 7 pm 11am & 2 pm Whale Station 9am-1pm	9 45 Ton Talk 11:00 am Whale Talk 11am & 2 pm	10 Whale Talk 11am & 2 pm Whale & Ocean Arts Fest. Banyan Tree Park, Lahaina 9am - 5pm	11 Whale & Ocean Arts Festival, Banyan Tree Park, Lahaina 9am - 5pm
12 Coral Reefs 2:00 pm Whale Station 9am-1pm	13 45 Ton Talk 11:00 am	14	15 45 Ton Talk 11am & 7 pm 11am & 2 pm Whale Station 9am-1pm	16 45 Ton Talk 11:00 am Whale Talk 11am & 2 pm	17 Whale Talk 11am & 2 pm	18
19 Coral Reefs 2:00 pm Whale Station 9am-1pm	20 45 Ton Talk 11:00 am	21 Volunteer Night 6:00pm-8:00pm	22 45 Ton Talk 11am & 7 pm 11am & 2 pm Whale Station 9am-1pm	23 45 Ton Talk 11:00 am Whale Talk 11am & 2 pm	24 Whale Talk 11am & 2 pm	25
26 Coral Reefs 2:00 pm Whale Station 9am-1pm	27 45 Ton Talk 11:00 am	28	29 45 Ton Talk 11am & 7 pm 11am & 2 pm Whale Station 9am-1pm	30 45 Ton Talk 11:00 am Whale Talk 11am & 2 pm	31 Whale Talk 11am & 2 pm	