

SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

Maui 's Volunteer Newsletter



New Outreach at Mana Kai

Story and Photo by Liz Stahl



Visitors with volunteers Suzanne Langman and Larry Boysen at the Mana Kai Outreach

We are excited to have started our new beach outreach at the Mana Kai beginning in January. The hotel is happy to have us there and has provided storage for our supplies. The table is located on the grassy area adjacent to the hotel entrance at Keawakapu Beach in South Kihei area. Park in the public unpaved lot and come visit us between 9AM and 1 PM on Wednesdays. If you would like to participate, please email Jeep Dunning at : mauijeep@gmail.com.

Student Helps Teach Children About Whales

Story and Photo by Chris Lamb



Judy Malano, from King Kekauliki High School, chose the humpback whale as the subject of her senior project. Her desire to protect the whales includes educating others about the dangers whales face today, the reason whales come to Hawaii and why the sanctuary is so important. She put time into fundraising to give a nice cash (\$134) donation to the HIHWNMS Foundation for education. Here she is shown at the visitor center where she came to learn and gather information for her presentation to Pukalani Elementary school children. She feels it is important for children to learn about the whales. She is presenting her donation to Bob Ragains. What a wonderful, thoughtful project on the part of this high school student. Thank You, Judy Malano.

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SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

Maui Oceanfront Marathon Aid Stations

Photo and story by Lynette Poncin

On January 19, about 18 friends and family showed up to support the Foundation aid station at the Sanctuary in Kihei as well as some Sanctuary volunteers that joined the party. Many thanks to Robyn Walters, Jan Culbertson, Bob Hogan, Bea Lilly and Rod Quigley for showing up early in the morning. With 600 runners, we didn't have too many helpers. Our youngest volunteer was 5 and the oldest over 75.

We served water, energy drinks, cliff bars and animal crackers !!

The street light was out so thanks to Biking Bob Hogan for shining his light on the tables. At 5:30am it is still dark. The runners would materialize out of the darkness and sometimes, the only way we knew a single runner was coming was the reflection off his running shoes. Next year we're using glow paint for signs!

We also had a station set up in West Maui. Sanctuary volunteers Teri Byrd (left to right) and Judy Lauridsen along with community volunteers Mimi Chan, Nancy Campbell and Phil Link were passing out water to the marathon participants in the early morning.



Photo by Bo Petty

Under Construction...Again!

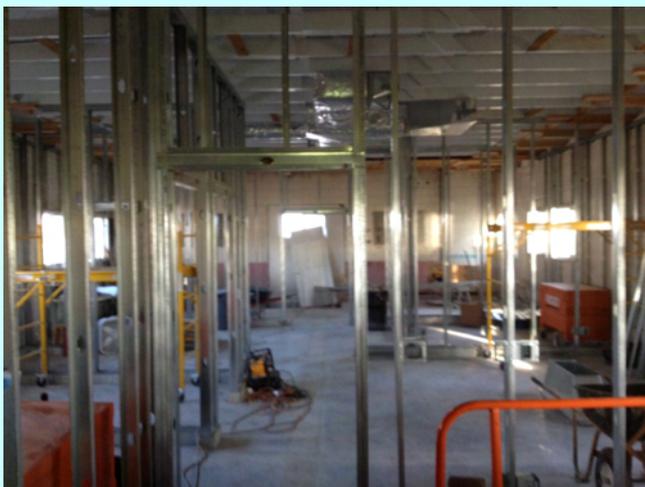


Photo by Lt. Joseph Carrier, NOAA

As many of you who come to the Kihei site know, we are once again under construction. The old Education Center/masonry building is finally getting its makeover inside. Fortunately, there has been minimal disturbance to our day-to-day operations—a couple less parking spots, and the occasional delivery truck. Take a peek inside, and you can see the steel joists outlining the new rooms. Construction should continue to the end of March (or beyond, but they have been pretty close to "on schedule" so, fingers crossed it's done by April). Thanks for your patience to the latest improvements to our site.

SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

Crown Of Thorns

By Serena Neff



Photo by Serena Neff

Crown-of-Thorns Star

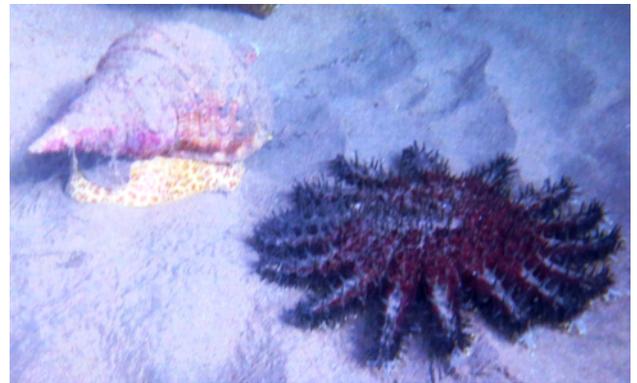
Acanthaster planci (Linnaeus, 1758)

Best known as a top predator of coral, the Crown-of-Thorns Star is easy to identify with its many (8-21) arms. It is usually a brownish red color but at greater depths it can appear green, possibly due to differences in diet. The mouth is located on the bottom of the animal with light-sensitive spots all over its upper surface. Tube feet help the Crown-of-Thorns star detect predators, find mates and navigate its environment. The spines covering its body are sharp and venomous, causing a burning pain in puncture wounds. On occasion, population blooms in the Crown-of-Thorns cause concern about the loss of coral reef systems. The natural predators of this sea star include Triton's Trumpet snails, Harlequin Shrimp and Fireworms; the fireworms are known to enter wounds created by the shrimp and consume the Crown-of-Thorns from the inside out. In a lab setting, the life span for this animal is thought to be 15-17 years.

Triton's Trumpet

Photos by Mike Rineer

The Triton's Trumpet is a mollusk that feeds on the Crown-of-Thorns Star among other sea stars and urchins. Our volunteer, Mike Rineer, was fortunate to see and photograph the series below of an incident of predation with the Triton's Trumpet gaining a delicious meal. Good bye Crown-of-Thorns Star.



SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

From Whaling to Whale Watching in Old Lahaina

by Bo Petty

Old Lahaina has a rich history thick with whaling and whales. In the early 1800's, New England whaling factory ships regularly plied the Pacific between Peru and Japan, with the Hawaiian Islands located centrally along the way. Lahaina became the primary port in the mid-Pacific where as many as 100 whaling ships at a time would visit for supplies and recreation. Today, Lahaina is a bustling tourism and seasonal whale-watching town. It is one of the best-known destinations lining the sanctuary. The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, with generous donations from the National Marine Sanctuaries Foundation who worked in partnership with the Lahaina Restoration Foundation, recently made improvements and created historical, cultural, and Pacific Islands Region displays at the landmark Old Lahaina Courthouse. The courthouse sits in the heart of Old Lahaina, on the waterfront, with balcony views directly over the busy Lahaina Harbor and the largest area of the whale sanctuary. This week, sanctuary staff and volunteers began sanctuary and humpback whale talks in the newly renovated and equipped ground floor multimedia theater at the courthouse. A majority of island travelers visit the historic Old Lahaina district, cruise ship tenders unload passengers there at the harbor, and the local community uses the compact district's central park surrounding the courthouse for activities and events. This creates an opportunity for many hundreds of visitors a day to drop into the courthouse which houses a visitor center, gift shop, art galleries, and the NOAA displays. The new, free, public talks at the courthouse share the sanctuary's roll within the Hawaiian Islands to protect humpback whales. The talks also provide information about how the public can understand and enjoy these fascinating giants while respecting the whales from a distance as they perpetuate their species. Humpback whales were hunted nearly to extinction during the whaling days, and now the public journeys to Lahaina and the sanctuary to safely watch the whales in wonder as their population grows.



Whale Boat Lowering photo by Clifford W. Ashley cir 1904



CHEF'S TASTING MENU

Available 4:45pm - 5:45pm daily in the Main Dining Room
Available all evening at the Chef's Counter

\$25.95

Hula Grill To Donate To The Sanctuary Foundation

Thanks to our partners, Wayne and Laurie Nunez of Oceanology and Whalers Village Museum, for arranging with Hula Grill to donate profits from this special menu to our HIHWNMS Foundation. Wayne and Laurie encouraged Hula Grill to allow our local chapter to be the recipients of the proceeds of this offer for the month of February for the second year in a row. This is in perfect timing to celebrate the seasonal return of the humpback whales to the sanctuary. You can help by patronizing Hula Grill and enjoying a great meal there so we can benefit from this offer by Hula Grill. For a copy of the complete menu email bo.petty@noaa.gov.

SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

South Maui

*Hawaiian Islands Humpback
Whale National Marine Sanctuary
726 South Kihei Road,
Kihei, HI 96753 (808) 879-2818*

West Maui

*Whaler Village Shopping Center
Whalers Museum
2435 Ka'anapali Parkway
Lahaina, HI 96761 (808) 661-4567*

February 2014

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

*World Whale Day at Kalama Park - Feb 15 Outreach
Whale Tales - Feb. 15 and 16 in Lahaina Outreach

**Hannah Bernard and Uncle Oliver Dukelow will do a talk at the Kihei site on February 19th at 6 PM.

***DLNR Fishpond hearing—the public is invited.
February 26 from 6:30 - 8:30PM in the Kihei conference room

Forward Look—Whale & Ocean Arts Festival March 1st and 2nd. We will have outreach tables. Contact mauijeep@gmail.com to volunteer to help.

2 Blue`Aina	3 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali MOC Outreach	4 Council Mtg 10 AM Kihei 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei and Lahaina	5 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali Mana Kai Outreach	6 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	7 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali	8 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei
9	10 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali MOC Outreach	11 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei and Lahaina	12 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali Mana Kai Outreach	13 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei Robin Baird Talk 6 PM Kihei	14 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali	15 * (see box) 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei Whale Tales in Lahaina
16 * (see box) Blue`Aina Whale Tales in Lahaina	17 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali MOC Outreach	18 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei and Lahaina	19 ** (see box) 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali Mana Kai Outreach	20 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	21 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali	22 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei
23	24 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali MOC Outreach	25 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei and Lahaina	26 *** (see box) 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali Mana Kai Outreach	27 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	28 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Ka`anapali	