

# SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

Maui 's Volunteer Newsletter



## Launch of the Hawai'i National Marine Sanctuary Foundation

Many folks flew to Hawaii for our official launch of the Hawaii National Marine Sanctuary Foundation on February 16th in Whalers Village. The well known elder Nainoa Thompson, the executive director of the Polynesian Voyaging Society spoke as well as Puanani Burgess of Oahu. Many supporters from the community joined the Board of Directors at a reception that included food, drinks and short speeches by many well known dignitaries. The entertainment was by famed singer and ukulele player, Daniel Ho, son of the late Don Ho.



Left to right: Jason Patlis, Malia Chow, Jennifer Barrett, Cathie Turley, Cheryl Shintani, Laurie Nunez, Wayne Nunez, Lynette Poncin, Puanani Burgess, Elia Herman, Fiona Langenberger.



Photos by John O'Leary

The private evening reception was held outdoors at the center of Whaler's Village.

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# SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

## Oceanology Experience 2013 By Teri Byrd

I know that everyone I spoke with at the Oceanology Experience event over President's weekend was very appreciative of the opportunity to participate in this wonderful celebration of whales. Overall consensus was that it was very well planned and executed and a huge success.

A big Mahalo to Laurie and Wayne Nunez and Bo Petty and employees of the Whalers Museum, all of the speakers, researchers, spiritual advisors, members of the Board of Trustees, and volunteers that made this happen.

I was very excited to be able to move between the groups of activities. One minute taking photographs of children smiling while creating fish prints and the next group signing important documents that will move forward the goals of the Sanctuary.

It is such a pleasure to see what a group of people united by a love of humpback whales can put together in a few days.

The reception was not only one of the most beautiful events I've ever attended but held deep meaning for everyone present. Chandeliers sparkled beside the stars over the heads of people brought together by compassion, a thirst for learning and a desire to nurture the health of the ocean environment for the good of the whales, all sea creatures and the humans whose lives are intertwined in a lovely, delicate balance. A good time was had by all!



The photo shows a child and his mom displaying their Gyo-taku artwork done at the Sanctuary outreach table at Whalers Village.



## Marine Debris Project By Kirsten Lewis

The purpose of the Marine Debris Program is to aid in the effort to assess baseline shoreline marine debris types, abundances, inputs, and the contribution of Japanese tsunami marine debris to the overall load of marine debris on our shorelines. Small teams of volunteers are working to collect data from shorelines across Hawaii. Every 28 days, each team collects and records data about trash on its assigned 100-meter length of shoreline. The data is entered on the NOAA Marine Debris Program database every six months. The survey will continue through October 2014. To learn more, visit the NOAA MDP webpage: <http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/tsunamidebris/monitoring.html>



Debra Wandersheid and Ken Blume found an old rim on the beach during their recent debris survey.

# SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

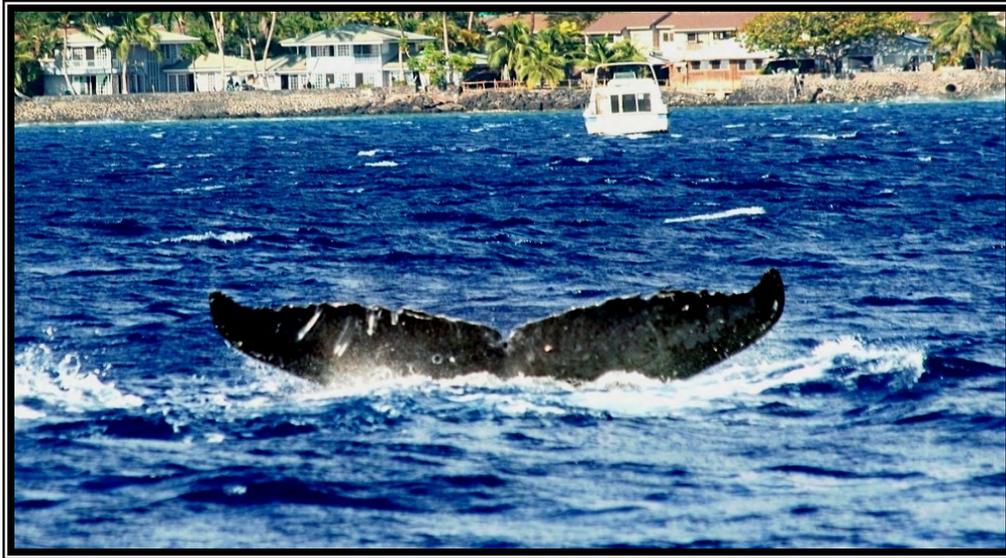


Photo by Lynette Poncin

## **Foundation Fodder . . .** *By Lynette Poncin*

Here is a quick update on the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation Trustee visit. They attended a Luau at the Hyatt on Friday night. Saturday was an all day meeting at the Whaler. Saturday night was the launch of the Hawaii National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. It included a wonderful opening by Puanani Burgess and closing by Ka`au Abraham. Sunday we were all out on Trilogy VI. It was windy but we did see whales. Monday found several at the Sanctuary site where Kimokeo Kapahulehua took the group out on an Outrigger and then taught them a chant in the Visitor Center. From there, we went over to Hale `Amui where Ed Lyman showed, "In the Wake of Giants" and explained some other facets of whale rescue. It was a very full weekend.

Some updates on Blue`aina. Right now, the March 3rd trip is booked for the spots we are allowed to book. However, in talking with Cynthia Matske, more spots may open up on Feb 25th. We have about 25 people on the standby list so they will be contacted first.

Trilogy has put on another trip for Mar 17th. BUT, the only people that can pre-book are folks who take and pass a Reef Survey class that Donna Brown is going to teach at the end of February. We will send out an email when we know the exact date and time of the class. When the announcement was made on the Facebook page that they were adding another date, emails started to come in. Cynthia and I hadn't connected so I took 14 bookings before I found out it was supposed to be held for students of the class. So.... As soon as I know more, I will tell you.

In the Visitor Center we are going to add a long sleeve version of the Whale Tale shirts in Navy and some sweatshirts. A shopping bag, some mugs, a children's book and a couple of plush toys will be all that we have room for. This will probably happen over the summer to get ready for next season.

# SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

## Lei Triggerfish or Whiteline Triggerfish

By Serena Neff

*Sufflamen bursa*

Hawaiian: humuhumu lei

Named for the two bands along its neck that look like necklaces or “leis,” the Lei Triggerfish can change the color of these bands from yellow to brown to gray depending on its mood.



Photo by Serena Neff

If they feel threatened, they can use their “trigger”—the dorsal spine—as a way to lock themselves in place within a crevice or hole. A thin white line also runs along the ventral side of the fish from its mouth to its anal fin. As a whole, triggerfish are rather shy, with this species commonly seen swimming solo while feeding (and away from snorkelers!). During territorial battles, or when mating is on their minds, they may be seen chasing each other in pairs or circling one another. Lei triggerfish feed on worms, algae, shellfish, crabs, tunicates, eggs and detritus and can get up to 8.5 inches in length. With their eyes placed far back on their heads, triggerfish are known to get between spines and feed on sea urchins.

## Limu Lesson

By Lopaka Aldrich



*Karin McGinnis, Chris LeCerf, Barry LeCerf, Dottie O'Neill, Ka`au Abraham, Lopaka Aldrich*

One of the objectives of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS) includes education and outreach programs that focus on educating the public about Hawaii's humpback whales and other ocean life.

A variety of programs are offered that allow the public to learn about the ocean and become involved in its protection. Ka`au Abraham, the Island Coordinator for HIHWNMS, is particularly fond of working with keiki.

On February 14, in advance of the Whale Days celebration in Kihei, Ka`au Abraham, assisted by five HIHWNMS volunteers, provided limu (seaweed) investigation lessons to 30 students from the Maui Home-School Group.

# 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

## March 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*Lahaina Whale and Ocean Arts Festival March 2 – 3 from 9am to 5pm at Banyan Tree Park, Lahaina. Art display/sale, musicians, hula troupes, kids ocean art contest, whale photo displays. Free admission. <b>We will have an outreach table.</b>						
3 *	4	5 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	6	7 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina 11AM Kihei	8 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina	9 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina 11AM Kihei
10	11	12 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	13	14 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina 11AM Kihei	15 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina	16 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina 11AM Kihei
17	18	19 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	20 <b>Pot Luck Volunteer Mtg. Kihei</b>	21 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina 11AM Kihei	22 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina	23 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina 11AM Kihei
24	25	26 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	27 Dr. Rachel Cartwright Talk on Keiki Kohola 6 PM Kihei	28 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina 11AM Kihei		