

# The Galloping News

From the Mountaintop – January 2003

**ANNUAL MEETING set for Sunday, January 19, 2003, at the CCC Camp. Meeting at 11, potluck lunch at 1.**

## **COUNTDOWN! Three short years to go!**

Will you still have your mountain home three years from today? Or will it be but a memory, like the Andrade home at Camp 6?



Andrade Cabin

It depends on you – and all of us, working together as our community association, can assure a solution that does not involve an auction or the “surrender” of our cabins to the State without compensation.

Three short years are left on our leases. What is your association doing in response to this very real threat?

- ✓ Partnering with State Parks to renovate the deteriorating public facilities in our mountain parks.
- ✓ Working with our Kauai legislators and the new administration to develop fair, reasonable and equitable alternatives for Koke’e.
- ✓ Providing focused testimony towards the many issues affecting the leaseholds in the master planning process.
- ✓ Co-sponsoring a historical study, in association with Hui o Laka, of the recreation residence cabins, which

could lead to appropriate protection for this unique mountain community.

What can you do to ensure that you still have a mountain home three years from now?

- ✓ Renew your membership in the Association.

Our bylaws allow one regular (voting) member per lease lot – your friends and family can join as associate members. If you are wondering whether your membership is current, it isn’t – unless you sent in a check in the last month or so. Our memberships are on a calendar year basis.

Our voice in the legislature and with the administration will be heard in direct proportion to the number of our members. When your family and friends ask what they can bring, tell them “A check – made out to the Koke’e Leaseholders Association.”

- ✓ Come to our meetings and participate in our community workdays.
- ✓ Participate in the master planning process.

## Senate Concurrent Resolution 136

With the strong support of our Kauai legislators, and the written and oral testimony of many leaseholders, we were successful in having the Legislature pass a joint resolution requesting DLNR to address our concerns. In a hearing at Elelele School on August 24, 2002, about fifty leaseholders provided testimony before Dan Quinn, State Parks Administrator, and Lauren Tanaka, Parks Planner. DLNR’s report will be presented to the Legislature shortly, and be posted on the DLNR website

<http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/Welcome.html>

## Koke'e History Project

One of the most important projects your Board has authorized was to commission a leading Hawaii historian, Dawn Duensing of Maui, to prepare a history of the Koke'e recreation residence cabins. Dawn has considerable experience in preparing nominations to the National Register, including the Hanalei Bridges. We believe that Koke'e is a unique and virtually intact historical community, and deserves appropriate protection under the law. The project is expected to cost about \$12,000, and even in advance of this announcement, we've made a good start towards the total.

As you know, our lease rents (a total of about \$200,000 a year) go into the State Parks Special Fund. We will ask Parks to fund a portion of the project.

That will leave several thousand dollars from leaseholders and friends. We raised about \$9,000 for our first renovation project – putting a new roof on and painting the Koke'e Pavilion.

We can do it again. Once again, your donations are tax deductible – make your check out to Hui o Laka (History Project), and send them to our treasurer,

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## What's happening on the mountain?

February 19 – (tentative) The second of four community meetings in the master planning process. R. M. Towill Corp. will present their Background Analysis, Alternatives Report, and preliminary Plan Recommendations. The meeting will be held “to obtain input into the alternatives developed and plan recommendations.”

March 15 and continuing on five Saturdays through May – Hui o Laka sponsors trail clearing and maintenance workshops. Call the Museum at 335.9975 for details.

August 23 – Admissions Day Weekend. Our next community workday. Meet at the Koke'e Pavilion, 8 am.

August or September? – Draft Master Plan presented to the Board of Land & Natural Resources for acceptance

December – Board takes action on Draft Master Plan to provide leaseholders with two years notice prior to lease expiration

It is clearly a critical year in Koke'e history – and what happens depends in part on each and every one of us.

You can choose now to be a part of developing a fair, reasonable, and equitable solution to the many issues facing Koke'e, or you can do nothing at all. The choice is yours.

I urge you to join us on Sunday, January 19, and to join (or renew) your membership today. Regular membership (one voting member per lot) is just \$25 – associate members are only \$10 (both per calendar year).

Help us build a pro-cabin majority in the legislature. Send an additional donation --\$15, \$30, \$50, \$100, \$200, or \$500 – to push the Legislature to protect our cabins!

For further information, please contact

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