

**Aloha Arborist Association**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**May 20, 2009**

Members Present: Carol Kwan, Dudley Hulbert, Gregory Severino, Dan Severino, Steve Connolly, Ashlen Aquila, Steve Nimz, Jon Perry, Sergio Vasquez, Doug DeMoss, Matt Lyum, Mark Leon

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 18, 2009, AND APRIL 29, 2009 MEETING MINUTES**

A) President Dudley Hulbert called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m. The March 2009 minutes were approved as written. A correction to the April 2009 minutes was noted. Cory's last name should be spelled "Blumerick". The April 2009 Annual Meeting minutes were approved as corrected.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

a. Research Committee.

i. Dudley explored the possibility of working with other researchers at UH in addition to Andy Kaufman. Steve Nimz suggested talking to James Brewbaker, another UH PhD in the Department of Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences. He also suggested doing a research project where roots are pruned one year prior to a tree being transplanted and studying where the roots grow. In the Mainland, the roots grow thick around the trunk after root pruning. This works great for transplanting a tree with full foliage.

b. Coconut Care Guidelines

i. Kevin is working on getting the layout done. The document needs to come back to AAA for review, comments, and acceptance prior to publication.

c. Training Workshops

i. James Urban – Up by Roots Fall 2009

1. Dudley spoke to Jim. He's a great guy who wants science to create art. It would cost \$3K plus expenses to bring him out here. It was agreed to try to work something out with ISA, WCISA, AAA, and ASLA Hawaii participating. Jim is available mid to late October but not around the LICH conference so a pre or post conference workshop is not going to work. Steve noted that it shouldn't be too much of a conflict with the LICH conference if we do it late October. Jim wants to come the weekend prior so he has time to look around and fine tune his presentation to local conditions. Steve moved that we pursue getting Jim Urban here late October. Carol seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Tree Dissection isn't dead, just deferred to 2010.

b. Hawaii Tree Climbing Competition (HTCC)

- i. Carol reported that \$1,120 has been pledged to date but not all pledges have been paid. Greg said that should be enough money to cover Ash's airfare and hotel room. Jon Perry has also signed up to compete and his application has been accepted. In addition, Greg mentioned to Jose' Mercado that Misti Beirne has started climbing. WCISA is trying to encourage more women to climb so she's been invited to compete and they've waived her entry fee. Misti is enthusiastic and wants to go but has financial constraints in being able to do so. Greg suggested that if we've collected more than enough to pay Ashlen's way, then he would like to see AAA sponsor Misti as well as Hawaii's female competitor. The consensus was to do this. Additional pledges to support Misti were received from Steve Nimz and Dan Severino.

II. NEW BUSINESS

a. Pest of the Month – Hawaiian Mistletoe

- i. Hosts: Native hardwoods
- ii. Distribution: Varies by species – see table p. 3 of the attachment.
- iii. Management: Prune affected branches and destroy them (do not use as mulch). Limit management to high-value forestry or landscape settings since these plants have a useful part in Hawaii's ecosystem.

b. AAA Website

- i. Carol reported that we've been having some issues regarding the AAA website. For awhile updates weren't being posted promptly, though that straightened out after Dudley spoke to Doug. When Tina became Webmaster, she asked Doug repeatedly for his master file so she could edit it for him to post. He did not respond so she assumed he didn't want to provide it. She's written a new website but we'd still need a host for it if we want to switch. When Tina was working on the website, she found out that LICH has a new website with areas where member associations can post info themselves. At this point there are three options: 1) continue with the existing website hosted by Doug, 2) use Tina's new website with another host, or 3) abandon the alohaarborist.com website and just use the LICH website. After much discussion, it was agreed that we would try to do more tree work for Doug in 2010 as a felling class and stay with the current website and host. We will not go with LICH's website or Tina's website at this time. Dudley will talk to Doug about working directly with Tina so Carol doesn't have to be the go-between person.

### III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Welcome to Matt Lyum, AAA member. His company is Performance Landscapes.
- b. Dudley brought in a sample of a large monkeypod limb that had been stubbed for transplanting. It had borers in the deadwood and a watersprout with a poor attachment.
- c. Greg discussed problems and adverse publicity from a tree removal project that PLMI is doing in Kailua for the City in hopes that it would help others avoid what happened to them. PLMI failed to notify the City prior to starting the work, which was done on a Saturday. In addition, instead of putting a small dot of survey paint by each tree to be removed, a worker had encircled the root flares with survey paint. The Lanikailua Outdoor Circle showed up and then it was all over the news. Mark said that The Outdoor Circle (TOC) asked him to take a look at the trees. He agreed with the removals for all but one of the trees. TOC's issue with the project is that the City didn't communicate with them or the community that the trees were going to come out. Dudley noted that even if it's an oral history, we need to document failures better so we have a history to backup our tree assessments. Doug pointed out that regardless of what type of tree it is, if it is an unsafe tree then the City needs to act on it to maintain public safety. Mark said the point is lack of communication on the City's part. Jon added that he thinks it's cool that people are making a fuss about the trees because it means they care. Greg would like to see a follow up article with AAA in the newspaper explaining to the public that there are those of us who do hazard evaluations and that we're trying to be proactive and remove unsafe trees prior to failure. The City and PLMI were accused of being tree haters. How could any of us be in the tree care industry and hate trees?

### IV. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned by President Dudley Hulbert at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Kwan

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

*The next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 17, 2009, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at Cattle Company Pearl City.*

Attachments:

1. 2009 AAA Membership application
2. *Hawaiian Mistletoes*

**2009 Aloha Arborist Association  
Membership Application**

Please process my membership with Aloha Arborist Association for calendar year 2009.

Membership:  \$10 Student     \$25 Government employee     \$50 Individual

\$150 Company     \$1,000 Lifetime Member    Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

If Company Membership, please designate 3 company representatives:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Website:** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

You may publish this information on the AAA website:  Yes     No

Please send this completed form to Aloha Arborist Association, P.O. Box 893953, Mililani, HI 96789-0953 with a check made payable to Aloha Arborist Association.

**Mahalo for your support!**