

**Aloha Arborist Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2008**

Members Present: Carol Kwan, Doug DeMoss, Chris Hudnall, Steve Nimz, Kevin Eckert, Dudley Hulbert, Gregory Severino, Dan Severino, Jon Perry, Sergio Vasquez, Thomas Aceves, Ashlen Aquila, Drew Hardman

Guest: Brian Fukuda

I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 2008 MEETING MINUTES

A) President Doug DeMoss called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m. The September 2008 minutes were approved as written.

I. OLD BUSINESS

a. WCISA Regional Meeting in Hawaii - *What's Bugging You?*

i. The deadline for early bird registration is November 14, 2008. AAA members get the discount. Steve needs samples including the host (tree part), damage, and live insect. We'll also be walking around the park as well. The Department of Ag said it shouldn't be a problem getting the pesticide CETs approved. Our goal is 75-100 people attending.

b. Research Committee

i. Dudley reported that Chris Dacus hasn't heard anything yet. If his project doesn't work out, we may try a different venue for our research, though we'd still need Andy Kaufman's help for procedures and writing the paper. The pending research was root pruning, working with the City on their project, and finding out what happens afterwards by digging it up again. We need funding to help pay for things. Otherwise we might have to use Waimanalo and that's not as convenient or as conducive to the type of research desired with sidewalks.

a. Coconut Care Guidelines

i. Steve sent out a draft but hasn't received any comments yet. Carol will resend the draft to all members.

b. Mokuleia Activity

i. Ashlen followed up on this. The camp has no funds to do any tree work and no other way to take care of this besides AAA helping them. Prime time to do the work is now before the wind picks up in November/December. This involves ironwoods with 95% aerial lift work. Deadwood and hanging branches are over the cabins. Greg can bring 3 lifts but not 3 operators, so if other member companies can provide the manpower he'd be happy to bring the metal. Ashlen can bring a chipper. Steve noted that when he discussed it with the camp they were talking about cutting and dropping. The main thing is to get the dangerous limbs on the ground. The camp has volunteers that can

move rubbish and haul away so chipping is optional. Ashlen will take the lead, set a date, and coordinate. It will probably be one day of work on a Saturday, spending the night, kicking back and enjoying on Sunday, then pau. The target for doing this is early November. Ashlen will email Carol with the details for distribution to members.

c. Knots Workshop

- i. Greg is looking at holding the Knots Workshop at Holy Family on Main Street by the airport. Greg will prune the trees in return for using the place for a venue. He's proposing doing it about a month before the first 2009 certification exam. He'll provide more details as we get closer.

d. Certified Arborist/Certified Tree Worker Exams October 18, 2008

- i. Mark's skills exam will be on Friday afternoon so Mark can judge on Saturday. Steve will be the special guest judge on Friday. Kevin noted that during the exam judges must maintain decorum. This should be covered during judges' training too. There should be no coaching and judges should not tell the candidate if he/she passed. Family members must be at a distance from examinees. Once the candidate completes the test, he/she can hang out in the park but can't say anything or his/her buddy will fail. There must be at least one CTW on each judging team. The Liaison must approve anyone who is not a CTW. Judges must not discuss how a candidate did even after the exam to maintain confidentiality.

II. NEW BUSINESS

a. Pest of the Month – Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle

- i. Distribution: South Pacific (American Samoa, others)
- ii. Host: Coconut palm, oil palms, other palm species
- iii. Symptoms: V-shaped cuts in the fronds or holes through the midrib
- iv. Management: Eliminating the places where they breed and manually destroying adults and immatures. Also through natural enemies such as pigs, rats, ants, and some beetles and diseases (fungus *Metahizium anisopliae* and *Oryctes* virus).
- v. If anyone finds the coconut rhinoceros beetle in Hawaii, please report it to Hawaii Department of Agriculture right away.
- vi. Doug noted that the King of Tonga thinks the larvae are a delicacy.

b. Hawaii Climber for WC-TCC Santa Barbara June 2009

- i. WCISA wants all states represented in the Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) and has offered to get sponsors to pay for the trip. Greg noted that there are some climbers here who would like to compete. This would be a simple “who’s interested in representing Hawaii – winner take all”. Hawaii’s TCC would have to be no later than April. Kevin noted that Hawaii’s TCC should be low key. Carol contacted Dan Skinner to see if Stihl would be interested in being a sponsor. Stihl is meeting next week to discuss its 2009 budget so Dan will let her know after that.

c. AAA Training Events 2009

- i. AAA plans to hold two training events in 2009, one in spring and one in fall. The spring event will be Greg’s Knots Workshop. The fall workshop has not been determined as yet. Carol prepared a draft program on Roots and passed it around, a copy of which is attached to the minutes. Steve noted that the Roots program looks fine but he’d like to know how many people would be interested in a true Shigo workshop involving dissecting trees, looking under microscopes, that sort of thing. Class size would be limited to 25-30 people and we’d have to coordinate with UH to get a venue. It could possibly be held at Lyon Arboretum. The Shigo workshop wouldn’t be a big money-maker and it’s a lot of work to hold something like this. We’d need to confirm that enough people are interested at around \$300/person to make it happen. Steve has attended workshops with Dr. Kevin Smith who took Shigo’s place at the U.S. Forest Service and he’s a dynamic speaker, very enthusiastic. Since he’s a government employee we’d just have to pay for his plane fare and per diem for a high quality presenter. The roots workshop would be more of a money maker though. Perhaps we could do it as a 2-day event with Roots the first day and Tree Biology/Dissection the second. Carol will send an email checking how many people are interested in attending a \$300/person workshop for 25-30 people on Tree Biology/Dissection.

d. Proposed Volunteer Project for 2009 – Kailua Ulupo Heiau by Kawainui Marsh

- i. Kevin reported that this group needs a huge earpod felled. They’ve done a great job of planting natives on the west side of the marsh, but they’re not capable of handling this earpod on their own. A crane will be needed because some limbs are too big for any rope to hold. The site would be a good location for the Hawaii TCC so perhaps something could be worked out.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Welcome to guest Brian Fukuda of Fukuda Inc. He works with DOE as a private consulting arborist.
- b. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Randy Liu who welcomed a new baby boy to their family last week.

- c. ISA Certification exam and exam retake prices increased effective October 2008. A new price list is attached to the minutes.
- d. OSHA is going to create standards for tree care outside of forestry. SCA is soliciting input from tree care companies that would be affected. Visit <http://sca.isa-arbor.com/industry/IndustryHappenings.aspx> for additional details, ways to comment, and the link to the OSHA website.
- e. The Aloha Power Equipment Special of the Month is the Shindaiwa Model 357 arborist top handle saw with 14" bar. Special member price is \$249.00 (list price \$429.00). For pictures and specs see www.alohapowerequipment.com. Please contact Doug Ward at 226-4971 or doug@alohapowerequipment.com to place orders.

The meeting was adjourned by President Doug DeMoss at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kwan

PLEASE JOIN US!

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 19, 2008, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Cattle Company, Pearl City.

Attachments:

1. 2009 AAA Membership application
2. Roots Seminar Outline
3. Pest Alert – Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle
4. ISA Exam Fees Price Update

**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

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!