

**Aloha Arborist Association**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**November 19, 2008**

Members Present: Carol Kwan, Doug DeMoss, Chris Hudnall, Dudley Hulbert, Gregory Severino, Dan Severino, Sergio Vasquez, Thomas Aceves, Maria Aceves, Ashlen Aquila, Quenna Johnson, Randy Liu, Erin Purple, Rod Nakashima, Issac Lolohea, Mark Leon, Steve Connolly, Wayne Hu

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

A) President Doug DeMoss called the meeting to order at 6:49 p.m. The October 2008 minutes were approved as written.

I. OLD BUSINESS

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

- i. Thanks to Stan Oka for offering to have DUF fill the coolers with ice and AAA's water bottles and delivered to McCoy Pavilion. Randy volunteered to deliver a cooler to Stan's office.
- ii. We need insect samples with the host plant including the damaged area. Samples should be brought to the workshop in zip top bags. The bags are important to reduce the risk of spreading pests. The hosts should be woody plants – trees or shrubs.

b. Research Committee

- i. Dudley wants to start again as of the new year, possibly doing a research project on our own. The funds haven't come through yet on the research project with Chris Dacus and Andy Kaufman. Mark mentioned that Ameron was interested earlier in helping with engineered soil research. That was over a year ago, so we should check back.

a. Coconut Care Guidelines

- i. There are some comments coming in via email. Most people are happy to see that it's being worked on.

b. Mokuleia Activity – Camp Mokuleia

- i. Ashlen reported that we struck out on this due to insufficient numbers of people volunteering. What's most needed is lift operator volunteers. About 10 people volunteered to help on ground crews.

c. Training Workshops

i. Spring 2009 - Knots Workshop

1. Greg's outline for the workshop was handed out. See attachment. The program looks good. The workshop will be held late February or else in March, depending on the venue availability.

ii. Fall 2009

1. Many people are interested in a Tree Biology/Dissection workshop based on survey results. Several Maui people are interested so there might possibly be enough people to have a second workshop there.
2. Roots seminar – on hold depending on whether or not the Tree Biology/Dissection workshop can be worked out.

d. Hawaii Representative for WCISA TCC

- i. WCISA has requested that Hawaii send a representative to its TCC in June 2009. Possible candidates include Steve Connolly, Ashlen Aquila, and Jon Perry though he might be leaving Hawaii. The intent is to do something small here to select a candidate and that candidate must represent Hawaii. There will be no alternate prize. Steve Connolly will check if Lyon Arboretum could possibly be a venue for the Hawaii TCC. We'll need judges for the event too. Anyone interested in competing, please contact Greg Severino at 478-1972.

## II. NEW BUSINESS

a. Pest of the Month – Cycad Scale

- i. Distribution: Oahu, Big Island, Kauai, and Maui
- ii. Host: Cycad species especially sago palm
- iii. Symptoms: Leaves turn yellow, then brown and die
- iv. Management: Biological control with tiny black lady beetle (*Rhyzobius lophanthae*) preferred.
- v. Doug noted that this pest is devastating cycads on Oahu. It's taking repeated pesticide applications to control it, especially for cycads growing in shade. Maintenance personnel must be very diligent with new leaves that are emerging.

b. Proposed Book Donations to State Library

- i. Carol proposed that we donate three copies of the *Arborists' Study Guide* and one copy of *Arboriculture* 4<sup>th</sup> edition by Richard Harris to the Hawaii State Library System. The books would come from AAA's current inventory. The *Arborists' Study Guides* will be sent to libraries on Kauai, Maui, and the Big Island so people there won't have to wait three weeks for the one copy on Oahu to be sent over media mail. *Arboriculture* will be sent to Hilo Library as

an update to its 1983 copy. Greg moved that we make the proposed donations. Sergio seconded it. The motion carried.

c. WCC Urban Forestry Classes

- i. Mark reported that per Steve Nimz, Dave Ringuette has been disappointed that AAA members are not sending students to the Urban Forestry classes. This is particularly a concern with the larger tree work companies. So far none of them have had employees sign up for the classes. He needs more participation from larger companies like Trees of Hawaii, PLMI, GLTT, etc. Greg said that he personally announced to his workforce that PLMI would sponsor anyone who would go. None of his workers took it. PLMI would rather offer the incentive of a pay increase upon successful completion of the course. Companies with 10 or more employees are the one in a position to send their workers but they essentially have to bribe their guys to go because they're not motivated to do it on their own. If each company who has 10+ employees sent one guy, we could keep the program going. Otherwise we may lose it entirely. Doug noted that lots of people are interested at the jobsites he's been working on, but they worry about trying to work and go to school at the same time. The workers end up with no free time. Greg suggested that AAA offer maybe a scholarship for one student, but there's little that AAA can really do to change things. The member companies have to make it happen. Dudley said that professionalism is a great thing but how do you light the fire in the workers? Chris suggested running an article in Hawaii Landscape to help drum up business.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Welcome to Steve Connolly, new arborist for Lyon Arboretum.
- b. Russell Komori of Iroquois Point Island Club is looking for a used lift truck with a 30'-35' working height. Please give him a call at 864-7158 or at his office at 203-5076 if you know of any.
- c. Randy announced that Starwood is looking to hire a gardener with arborist experience to start on 1/1/2009. Pay is \$16-\$17/hour with great benefits, union pay, pension, lunch, and a 401K plan. If you know of anybody who needs a job and is a good worker, please contact Randy at 282-5328 or [randy.liu@sheraton.com](mailto:randy.liu@sheraton.com).
- d. The Aloha Power Equipment Special of the Month is the Stihl chainsaw Model Ms200T w/14 inch bar. Regular price: \$629.00 Special price: \$549.00. Members can get more info at [www.alohapowerequipment.com](http://www.alohapowerequipment.com). Please contact Doug Ward at 226-4971 or [doug@alohapowerequipment.com](mailto:doug@alohapowerequipment.com) to place orders.
- e. Happy Holidays! See you next year.

The meeting was adjourned by President Doug DeMoss at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Kwan

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

*The next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 21, 2009, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Cattle Company, Pearl City.*

Attachments:

1. 2009 AAA Membership application
2. Knots Workshop Outline
3. Pest Alert – Cycad Scale

**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!**