



# The Voice of the Volcano Community Association



March 2010

## 2010 is the 30th Anniversary of the VCA

The annual VCA general membership meeting on January 28th at Cooper Center recognized founding members of the Volcano Community Association 30 years ago. A panel of community builders reminisced the days gone by and the growing pains of our community in 1970. Present at the meeting were Betsy and Mitch Mitchell, Ray Fuhrmann, Gus and Laura Yong, Bonnie Goodell, Marti Lockwood, and Akira Yamamoto. The audience enjoyed the recollections of this founding group of community activists.

Guy Enriquez commended the VCA on their unity and perseverance in getting projects done. One example came as he announced that because of the lobbying by Cooper Council and the VCA, the gravel parking lot at the Center will be paved by the County in April.

The Volcano Community Association's outgoing and incoming board members were introduced. Mahalo to outgoing members for their contributions to community action: Jeffrey Mermel, president; Pat Halpern, membership and t-shirt chair, Leslie Laird, treasurer; Hank Banquer, and Bob Belcher, board members.

We would like to apologize to Rosemary Stancampiano for not listing her as a VCA Business Partner last month. **Rosemary Stancampiano Tax Service** offers 10% off all tax preparation to VCA members and was featured in our April 2009 issue of *The Voice*. Please call Rosemary at 985-7279 for an appointment today.



An election was held and new members to the board include Jenny Orr, Mary Brewer, Sharon Rose, Paul Freeman, Adam Jacobstein and Jim Mitchell. They will be working with incumbent board members Mililani Hughes, Dan Taylor, and David Wallerstein. The VCA board meets the last Tuesday each month at Cooper Center at 7:00 pm.



Some of the Volcano Community Association founders (top L-R) Akira Yamamoto, Ray Fuhrmann, Betsy and Mitch Mitchell, (lower L-R) Marti Lockwood, Gus Yong and Bonnie Goodell were our honored guests at the VCA 30 year celebration.

### *Volcano Community Association Mission Statement*

To improve and protect the quality of life in Volcano, County and State of Hawaii, on behalf of all residents of the area. To promote the social and educational advancement, increase recreational opportunities, ensure health, protect natural environment, and develop community spirit. Also, it will undertake any consonant project the community may be moved to assign to it. However, it will remain nonpartisan and nonsectarian.

*The Voice of the Volcano Community Association* is published by the VCA Board of Directors: Mililani Hughes, Dan Taylor, David Wallerstein, Jenny Orr, Mary Brewer, Sharon Rose, Paul Freeman, and Jim Mitchell.  
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Mahalo to outgoing board members: (L-R) Hank Banquer, Bob Belcher, Pat Halpern, membership and t-shirt chair, Leslie Laird, treasurer and Jeffrey Mermel, president.



Continuing experienced board members (L-R) Mililani Hughes, Dan Taylor and David Wallerstein will provide continuity for the new board.

### Hawaii Island Land Trust

At the Wednesday, Feb 10th meeting with HILT Executive Director, Doug Sensenig, we learned more about conservation easements and other strategies for protecting native forest on small properties. HILT and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) are strong supporters of this concept as it is emerging in Volcano. There are at least three candidate easements in Volcano, and interest expressed by owners for others. HILT will make a presentation to the VCA BoD meeting in March.

[www.hawaiilandtrust.org](http://www.hawaiilandtrust.org)

324 - 4458

### Some of What Your VCA Did in 2009:

- Demonstrated greater transparency in operations and programs
- Second year of success in organizing the Makahiki cultural events festival
- Improvement of VCA website
- Publication of monthly Newsletter, in co-operation with Cooper Center Council
- Regular appearance at Sunday Market information table
- Organization of annual July Fourth parade, in co-operation with Cooper Council
- Continued support for Puna Community Development Plan (PCDP)
- Formal support for recycling and County waste management programs
- Substantial support for County public bus service
- Financial support for community services such as coqui frog control, Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT,) school supplies for Volcano School of Arts and Sciences charter school, Volcano Friends Feeding Friends (VFFF), etc.

