

Koa'ekea, Hawai'i County PONC Stewardship Pōhāhā I Ka Lani 2017

January 2017 Hale Building Workshop. We flew over Francis Sinenci, Peter Kalawai'a Moore and his son to help lead a three-day hale building workshop. Part of the workshop, participants learned how to build 'olokea which is shown in the picture below. In addition to the 'olokea, participants learned how to do an opening chant and dance speaking of hale building, learned the different parts of a hale and what its function is. Participants also learned how to do the roof section of a hale





January 2017 Mālama ‘Āina Day Pōhāhā I Ka Lani 2017

We planted native Hawaiian bananas along the fence in addition to 2 ulu trees. Invasive trees were chipped and wood chips were placed around plantings.



January 2017: Kalo, Mamaki, La‘amia, Ko‘oko‘olau, Pa‘u o Hi‘iaka, Koki‘o, Planted





January Clean Up Days: Weeding taro patches, chipping invasive trees and utilizing wood chips in gardens.





January 2017:





Lots of Native Hawaiian Bananas Planted at Koa'ekea



Trees that were cut were chipped to be utilized in gardens at Koa'ekea.





Gardens growing well.



Mid-January 2017 Mālama ‘Āina Day Pōhāhā I Ka Lani

Mid-January 2017 Mālama ‘Āina Day: Reggae Singers Mishka, Buckman Coe, Caleb Hart along with families from O‘ahu, and Hāmākua joined us to plant a few more gardens at Koa‘ekea.



Lots more trash were removed at the January 2017 Mālama ‘Āina Day. It seemed before we could plant anything, while digging the area, we needed to remove layers of rubbish.



Wauke also planted in the area.



A doctor from Straub Hospital and a teacher from Mālama Honua Charter School flew in to help us plant kalo at the January 2017 Mālama 'Āina Day.



Singer Buckman Coe seen in picture below gathering rubbish off of the property.





February 2017: Teaching participants how to farm organically utilizing wood chips and bamboo leaves for mulch.





February 2017 Mālama 'Āina Day Pōhāhā I Ka Lani



February 2017: To save funds, Executive Director for Pōhāhā I Ka Lani, Jesse volunteered his time to cut the trees in the area.



One of our little helpers



February 2017: Some of the school groups we hosted: HPA





Hālau Hula Mōhala Ilima helped at Koa'ekea by tending to the gardens before heading to our farm in Waipi'o Valley to hear mo'olelo of Hi'ilawe.



Jesse volunteering his time to cut the mango trees. The trees were very skinny and the tops were chipped to be utilized at the gardens on site.



Picture below shows the area after the mango trees were cut.



Olokea (s) made and used to help protect baby ulu trees that were planted at Koa'ekea while trees were being cut.



We do our best to cut the grass in front of the fence line as we would often see people utilizing the area to use the bathroom after coming out of the valley. People also throw their trash in the area.



Lots of wood chips.



Gardens growing well.



View of property after mango trees cut.



Gardens doing well.







We were not allowed on the property to mālama Koa'ekea while the transition of stewardship for 2016 – 2017 began. When were finally given the approval to be on to the 'āina to mālama, the area was really over grown. Our family spent a few weekends dedicated to weed out garden beds, weed eating the property, and cutting the grass. The picture below shows how bad the property looked after letting the property sit. Please refer to the prior pictures to show the major transition of the property.



May 2017: We spent countless hours weeding out garden beds after we were not allowed on the property for a couple months.



May 2017: Continued to weed out garden beds and weed eat grass.



June 2017: Lots of help from the youth to mālama 'āina



June 2017: Gardens getting back to normal and we are ready to start hosting groups again.



Youth from Honoka'a School often comes to help us at Koa'ekea.



June 2017: Honoka'a School students often comes to help out.





June 2017



The tall grass was cut down to small pieces and eventually mowed.



June 2017 Mālama 'Āina Day Pōhāhā I Ka Lani

June 2017: Mālama 'Āina Day: 40+ youth from Hāmākua, 40 youth from Utah, 2 Kupu teams, and community members showed up to help mālama this area.





Hand clearing the tall grass and removing the stumps. Clumps of grass were placed under weed mats.





Lots of help to mālama Koa'ēkea. The youth made lines and passed buckets of wood chips for the garden beds.



People came throughout the day. The picture below shows some of the people that came to kōkua.



By the end of the day, most of the tall grass/clumps were dug out.





The love for Koa'ekea continues.....



Below: We were able to remove the tall grass and clumps.





Hāmākua Youth coming to learn and help at Koa'ekea. We held a poi pounding workshop and show the keiki how to eat healthy from the 'āina. Coconut Chris helped a lot with tree work and came often to share items from his gardens for keiki to eat and drink.



July 2017: 2 Kupu Teams camped over and helped to mālama Koa'ekea. Youth weeded and planted ti leaves, nanu, and other native flowers to make the area along the road a little more beautiful.





Wood chips were utilized for garden beds.



July 2017: Climbing up pine trees to cut down into sections.





One of our constant helpers. Our older daughter La'a who helps with weeding, shoveling mulch, carrying buckets of mulch to garden beds, and helping with planting.





Another one of our constant helpers, our younger daughter Kila who works side by side with her older sister.





Cleaning out the lower section of the property. One more vehicle found buried along this hill side.





Placed wood chips to make this section ready for planting after grass clumps removed.





Cleaning out this section and removing lots of trash. There are pieces of a car under this section.



An example of an old Toyota truck that we found in the back of the property. It is our personal truck that haul loads of rubbish off of the property.





The larger chocolate albizia and other trees that could not fit into the chipper was hauled in this area of the property in hopes that we could have dirt cover it as there is a large drop off from the section above.







This picture shows how close the family's home was to the Pine trees. Luckily Jesse was able to cut the tree to fall away from the home. Our friend Chris also helped with this.





Jesse volunteering his time, up in the pine tree preparing it to be cut. Our friend Chris took this picture from a coconut tree he was in. He gathers coconuts for our participants to be able to drink fresh coconut water from the surrounding coconut trees.





One of the pine trees grew up against a palm tree. Chris showing the girls how to harvest heart of palm.



As usual, working until day becomes night.



Poi Board Workshop Pōhāhā I Ka Lani 2017

Poi Board Workshop at Koa'ekea. Grandchildren and greatgrandchild of Mr. John Thomas (former resident of area) attended this workshop in addition to Waipi'o families such as Kaholoa'a, Pauahi, and Chong family members. Laupāhoehoe teachers, Kohala doctor, employees from Nā Ala Hele, Volcano National Parks, 4 teachers from Keiki Steps, a Kona charter school teacher also attended this workshop and by the end of the weekend, families went home with their own poi boards. (August 2017)







Above: After first day of workshop. Below: Kaholoaa family with one of their poi boards.





Empowering families





A few families finished their poi boards on the first day. Picture below is of the families who finished their poi boards on the second day.





When the gardens are well, our people are well.



Multiplying kalo varieties to share with schools and families.



September 2017: Workshop on Art, Mo'olelo,
and Music with Hanohano & Maile Naehu

Pōhāhā I Ka Lani





Families learned the mo'olelo of Nanaue, the half man, half shark from Waipi'o Valley and they were taught how to draw the mouth of a shark.





Families got to listen to different songs including a song written for Waipi'o and in return families created their own songs/poetry and performed it at our hō'ike.





Beauty all around.





HPA students continues to come out and help mālama ‘āina at Koa‘ekea. As with all the groups we host, we share mo‘olelo of the area, place names, and teach them how to grow their own food. We gifted HPA School lots of kalo for their school garden and gifted wood from our farm for their wood shop classes.





UHH students continues to help at Koa'ekea







Thinning out the bamboo area.





Members from Kohala came out to kōkua at Koa'ekea and in return we gave them enough kalo huli to plant in one of their lo'i that they restored in Kohala. Last year we gifted Niuli'i farmers in Kohala thousands of huli in which they stated they have been able to produce a lot of food with and continue to farm that kalo.





Workshop on how to prepare apu for 'awa.