

## SENATOR J. KALANI ENGLISH VISITS KAHO'OLAWÉ FOR LEGISLATIVE SITE INSPECTION



*From Kaho'olawe Island Reserve  
Commission Fall Newsletter 2009,  
excerpted by permission.*

As the 'Ohua landing craft approached Honokanai'a Bay on a mid-September morning, Executive Director Mike Naho'opi'i began the chant Mele Komo - Request to Enter and, to a person, they stood. Respectfully.

*Senate VP Kokubun, KIRC Executive Director Mike Naho'opi'i, Sen. English, Rep. Carroll, Sen. Kidani, and Sen. Galuteria stand before the Ordnance Board, (a display of wartime munitions) during the recent Legislative Access to Kaho'olawe. Sept. 16, 2009*

The purpose of this access was to enable members of the Hawaiian Caucus and other state legislators who have supported Kaho'olawe in the past to better understand the KIRC's new strategic plan, vision for the future, current programs, and to begin a dialogue on future funding

opportunities through site inspections and interaction with both KIRC staff and on-island volunteers.

Senator English said, "The volunteers are a key component to the restoration of the island" as he observed their rigorous work schedule. "I want to thank them for their commitment and dedication. The future of Kaho'olawe is well protected by their efforts."

Earlier in the day, at a brief stop at Honoko'a Bay, members of the entourage explored the pristine reef system, noting that protection of Hawaii's resources can yield a near perfect habitat for reef fishes, honu (turtle) and 'iliohol-oikauaua (Monk seal). The "nursery effect" of the Reserve's protection - food fish populations spilling out into the waters of Maui Nui - was also discussed in terms of sustainability.

After settling into Honokanai'a Kauhale - including the inaugural overnight accommodations in recently retro-fitted Hut 10 - the group toured Base Camp facilities including potable water sources, showers, machine shop, generator, education center, and reverse osmosis facilities, and engaged in a comprehensive discussion of KIRC's alternative energy objectives, before traveling to Kealaikahiki for a cultural briefing at the Star Compass and a hike along the recently completed section of the Ala Loa trail.

*Kaho'olawe continued on pg 2*

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### A MESSAGE FROM KALANI

As the autumnal equinox brings us our first cooler temperatures, I take a moment to appreciate Hawai'i's year round growing season. Our State suffers the effect of a recession, budget shortfalls, and layoffs with direct and trickle down affects on the economy, healthcare and the environment. Still, I feel confident that the innate resourcefulness of the people of my district will provide more for their families locally, nutritiously, and creatively from the abundance that is our home.

It seems as though I have been as busy with official duties as I was during the legislative session, however, somehow I was able to devote quality time to malama 'āina in Hana. This practice is not just rejuvenative for me, it is a fundamental practice taught in my family for generations.

Diligence will be required of all of us to champion the principles that sustain us on Maui. If you know these values, teach them now to your 'ohana. If you want to learn them, you will find that the resources surround you.

Aloha,

*J. Kalani English*

*Kaho'olawe continued*

Traveling next to Moa'ulaiki, legislators explored the Navigator's Chair, Bell Stone and other cultural and archeological sites and planting restoration work along the way. In returning to Base Camp, their last stop was Sailor's Hat - a poignant reminder of the devastation once wreaked upon Kaho'olawe that stands in stark contrast to today's aloha 'aina with which we malama this incomparable island.

As they departed the Reserve to the chanted strains of Ke Noi 'A'ama - Request for Release - the legislators, like so many earlier visitors, rose as one, quietly and reflectively, before the profoundly personal awareness gained within the Kanaloa Kaho'olawe experience.

"Kaho'olawe is truly the pathfinder for all of Hawai'i. I can see first hand the importance of conservation and restoration projects and its relation to the health of an island," noted Sen. English, "as Kaho'olawe goes, so does the rest of Hawai'i. I am so humbled to be the Senator for this very sacred island called Kaho'olawe."

## KIRC GETS NEW DIGS



*KIRC Executive Director Mike Naho'opi'i thanks Sen. English for his support of KIRC and their efforts to restore Kaho'olawe at a recent KIRC meeting in Kahului, Maui. Aug. 27, 2009*

For more than 30 years, Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana volunteers have met in a make shift center made from scrap lumber and tarps. This year, thanks to the substantial legislative efforts and constant support from two Maui County State Senators, J. Kalani English, who also represents Kaho'olawe, and Shan Tsutsui, Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding will be available in this current fiscal year to build a

permanent shelter and kitchen structure at Hakioawa.

The new hale will support Kaho'olawe volunteers in their cultural and environmental restoration work on the island with a simple, economic and efficient low-maintenance design. Sustainable for future generations to use, it will be constructed almost entirely of composite materials, impervious to rust and rot, will include rainwater catchment components, and will be adaptable to a photovoltaic electrical system.



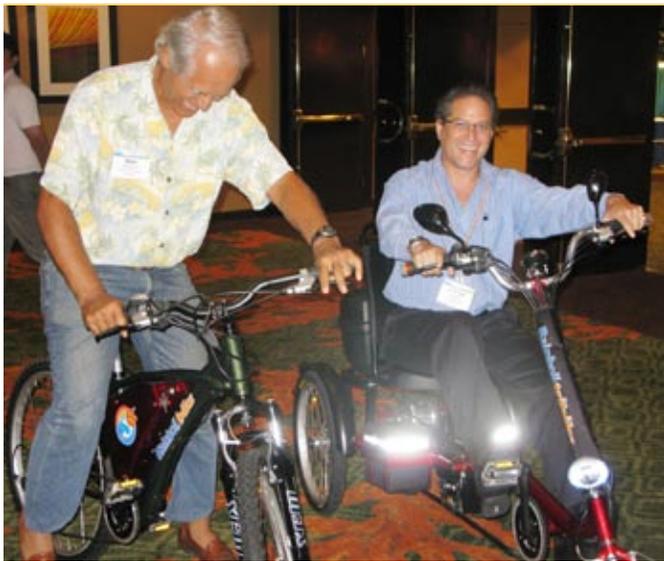
*The cast of **Maui Mana'o**: host Alan Kekoa Texeira with Senators J. Kalani English, Roz Baker & Shan Tsutsui at the Capitol as they prepare to tape a legislative report back to Maui County. Sept. 2, 2009*



*Maui Senate Team honours the late Maui Artist, Tadashi Sato, who designed the mosaic **Aquarius**, originally installed in 1969. The recently restored glass mosaic is the centerpiece of the rotunda at the State Capitol. (Left to right) Sen. Baker, Tadashi Sato's daughter, Janice Shimamura, Tadashi Sato's sisters, Fumiko Sugai and Keiko Sato, Sen. English, and Sen. Tsutsui. Aug. 19, 2009*



*Tahitian Businessman Quito Braun-Ortega and his family visit Hale o Piilani Heiau and the 'ulu (breadfruit) collection on the grounds of Kahanu Gardens. Aug. 20, 2009*



Senators Gabbard & English test out electric bikes at the 2009 Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit & Expo in Waikiki. Sept. 1, 2009. For more information visit: <http://www.asiapacificcleanenergy.com/node/2>



US Ambassador Miriam Hughes accepts a proclamation honouring her and the opening of the new US Embassy in Kolonia, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia. Sept. 14, 2009



Sen. English enjoyed a month long birthday celebration beginning in Hana with a feast and many friends including "Wierd Al" and Susanne Yankovic. Aug. 7, 2009

## SENATOR ENGLISH SUPPORTS ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR 'HYBRID BRANCHES'

Enterprise Rent-A-Car announced the designation of four hybrid locations in Hawai'i as part of a larger effort that added nearly 5,000 hybrid vehicles to the company's nationwide fleet earlier this year. Hybrids have a number of environmental benefits, including better fuel economy, less fuel consumption and fewer emissions than traditional vehicles.

"As we strive to build a cleaner, more sustainable Hawai'i, we welcome opportunities to work with the business community to offer more options to our local communities. Increasing the number of hybrid vehicles in Hawai'i, along with the benefits they bring in terms of lower fuel consumption and fewer greenhouse gas emissions, are important steps toward our preferred future," said Sen. English.

The Maui branch will be located at 40 Hana Highway, in Kahului.

## WE THE PEOPLE

Two Senate Ad Hoc Committee Hearings convened in response to the Governor's proposed layoffs in both the Departments of Health and Agriculture were well attended by officials and community members. Senate Health Committee Chair, David Ige, joined Senators English, Baker, Tsutsui, and Kokubun to receive testimony from their constituents and field experts regarding the community impact of the layoffs.

News of layoffs of state agricultural inspectors brought forth many angry testifiers. Field experts and business owners forecasted the damage to the environment, from threats to native species to local farming as well as the undermining of small agricultural businesses in Maui County.

"This is a chance for the residents of Maui, Moloka'i and Lana'i to voice their concerns. They know what these programs mean to their community and what kind of effects we can expect to see from the programs' elimination," said Sen. English.



Maui Senate team at work, Senators Tsutsui, English & Baker. To view AKAKU TV. coverage of the hearings visit: <http://my.akaku.org/?7xt> at minute marker 5.30



## HAWAI‘I QUEST PROGRAM CHANGES AFFECT CITIZENS OF COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION NATIONS

Sen. English recently held a briefing on Hawai‘i Quest program changes and the status of the amendment to the federal bill that provides Medicaid eligibility to the citizens of the COFA nations. Among those that presented testimony were such dignitaries as His Excellency Yosiwo P. George, Ambassador to the United States from the Federated States of Micronesia, Hon. John Silk, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and distinguished members of Hawai‘i’s medical and Micronesian communities.

Prior to the briefing, Federal court Judge Seabright issued a temporary restraining order preventing the State from implementing a new health care program that would reduce benefits to the COFA nations’ citizens. “We need to find out how the decision was made to exclude these patients,” Sen. English noted, “that’s the larger problem.”



## PARTNERSHIP PROVIDES SUPPLIES FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Senator J. Kalani English is helping to distribute backpacks containing essential school supplies to students at Hāna School (K-12, 350 students), Lāna‘i High & Elementary (K-12, 540 students) and Kaunakakai Elementary (K-6, 240 students) as part of a statewide program sponsored by the Hawai‘i State Legislature and The Office Depot Foundation, as part of the Foundation’s Ninth Annual National Backpack Program in partnership with the National Foundation for Women Legislators (NFWL).

“Children who are facing other challenges in their lives shouldn’t have to worry about the stigma of not having school supplies,” said Senator English. “I look forward to having more opportunities to seek public-private partnerships with the good corporate citizens in our community who are there to help those in need.”

The backpacks are specially designed to meet the needs of students in grades K-5. Each feature two front pockets, wide, padded straps, and includes a pencil pouch, a ruler, four crayons, a glue stick, a pen, a pencil, a pencil sharpener and an eraser.

- ▶ **AKAKU Community Television** and Sen. English bring us a history sound-bite of the Tahitian Dance that links all Polynesians. <http://my.akaku.org/?m7m> **View** at minute marker 7:34
- ▶ **Maui Mana‘o** a session wrap up discussion with Senators English, Baker, and Tsutsui. (in three parts) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tqJoGbeKQZo&feature>
- ▶ Tune in to hear Sen. English in recent interview with Doug Carlson of **HPR** program **Energy Futures** as he discusses the history and potential of Geothermal energy for Hawai‘i. [http://hawaiipublicradio.org/audio/EF\\_080309.mp3](http://hawaiipublicradio.org/audio/EF_080309.mp3)
- ▶ **Na Oiwli Oolino** radio broadcast from Kaho‘olawe, September 16, 2009. <http://am940hawaii.com/ads/naoi-wiolino.html>



### COMMITTEES

- ▶ **Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs**
- ▶ **Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Energy and Environment**
- ▶ **Member, Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs**
- ▶ **Member, Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

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