Pulama IA Kona Heritage Preservation Council

Annual Report—2009

A milestone was reached in 2009 when Pulama's pilot Kona Heritage Corridor, extending from the Palani junction to the Kuakini Hwy junction in Honalo, was designated Hawaii's first Scenic Byway. The corridor is now officially recognized as the Mamalahoa Kona Heritage Corridor. This Scenic Byway is distinguished by the intrinsic historic quality that dates back to the days when Mamalahoa was a trail that encircled our island and used by early Hawaiians.

Pulama with community input and the help of the Hawaii Department of Transportation staff, their consultants and the Federal Highways Administration staff prepared an application to plan a corridor management plan. This application was accepted by the Federal Highways Administration and Pulama is now waiting for allocation of funds in the amount of $29,140. Pulama is looking for this allocation in early 2010 and is poised to proceed with soliciting public input. The eventual result will be a corridor management plan that will provide visitors with meaningful experiences and safe travel.

In October, 2009, Pulama conducted it's first Annual Fund Drive to establish a seed fund which will be used for expenditures not funded by the Federal Highways Administration such as administrative supplies, advertising and postage. Appreciation is extended to all persons who responded with their generous contributions.

Appreciation is extended to the management team who helped Pulama reach this milestone and now disbanded. Therefore Pulama looks towards 2010 as an organization administered strictly by volunteers. Management team members who are no longer with us are Sheree Chase, Millie Kim and Russell Kokubun who worked on Pulama projects only when the legislature was not in session.

Challenges facing Pulama in 2010 are: (1) Increase membership base: (2) Conduct fundraising activities to pay off debts which include payments to former management team members.

Mahalo Nui Loa

Scott Seymour
President