



Congratulations Kaua'i Master Gardener Class of 2014!

Kim Perry, MG Coordinator, Kaua'i

The Kaua'i Master Gardeners had much to celebrate last Thursday as the class of 2014 (the largest class in the history of the Kaua'i Master Gardener Program) completed the final day of their 16-week Training Course. We concluded the course with a full day of learning, sharing and camaraderie as the trainees presented the findings of their group research projects, followed by a potluck celebration. The group project presentations gave trainees the opportunity to engage in active learning, apply and expand upon the content learned in the course, gain experience utilizing credible sources of information to conduct research on a specific topic in horticulture, and build skills sharing information with others in an informative and engaging way.



Groups presented talks on everything from Aquaponics to Homemade Weed Wipers, Growing Lei Plants at Home, Native Plants in the Home Garden, Conservation and Restoration of Kiawe, Post-Harvest Food Preservation, and Herb Gardening in Containers on Kauai. We even had a mini hands-on Grafting workshop! The presentations were dynamic, engaging and creative, as each group took a unique approach to their subject matter.



Groups made excellent use of audio, visual, and tactile aids in their presentations. Some presentations even had gustatory components and we got to sample delicious homemade pickles, preserves, solar-dried fruit, kiawe pastries, and traditional Hawaiian Kukui nut poke!

Following the presentations, we headed out to the potting shed to break bread and celebrate everyone's hard work and achievement throughout the Training Program.



Ruth made a beautiful cake and everyone brought a delicious homemade dish to share. It was a wonderful way to conclude the Training Program and transition to next phase of the Program. This new group of trainees is so talented, enthusiastic, engaged and hardworking. They are going to make such a great impact in the community, as they complete their volunteer service.

Thank you Kaua'i Master Gardener Class of 2014 for all of your efforts and dedication to the program! I can't wait for what lies ahead!

