News from Maui
by Cynthia Nazario-Leary, Acting Maui MG Coordinator

The Maui Master Gardeners have kept a busy education and information outreach schedule starting in March with the Maui County Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom. This is a fun event where 2nd graders from various Maui schools come to the Maui Tropical Plantation to learn about agriculture in Maui and participate in various agricultural and plant related activities. The Maui Master Gardeners got the opportunity to teach students about Hawaiian canoe plants and their uses including breadfruit (ulu), coconut (niu), sugar cane (ko), and taro (kalo).

Maui Master Gardener Johnny Kahakaloha instructing 2nd graders on Hawaiian canoe plants at the Maui County Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom event in March.

Educational outreach events continued throughout April including the Maui County Agricultural Festival on April 4th, the Kula Ace Hardware Earth Day Event on April 18th, and Haiku Ho'olaule'a Flower Festival on April 25th. These outreach events are a great opportunity for Master Gardeners to engage with the public about garden concerns, fruit fly and other pest management, as well as promoting the Master Gardener Program. The Maui County Agricultural Festival is CTAHR's biggest outreach event on Maui and all of our agents were on hand, including Alton Arakaki from Molokai. Oahu folks Ted Rado-
vich, C.N. Lee, Jensen Uyeda, Charly Kinoshita and Dean Maria Gallo also joined us. We even had a surprise visit from Governor David Ige and Maui County Mayor Alan Arakawa.

Back on the home front, Master Gardeners continue to diligently work our Help Desk. Thanks to Patty and Larry Yonashiro for their continued work on refining the database to make the database easier for all of us to use and access.

Master Gardeners have also been busy in the apiary assisting in UHMC EdVenture apiary classes and continuing to maintain and support our hives. Thanks to Eric DeMaria and Flora Wong, our bees have a brand new hive! We had a small harvest of honey in April and hope to have an additional harvest before the Maui County fair in the fall.

We are looking forward to our Graduation and Certification ceremony on June 26th for our 2014 class of interns. As well as recertifying current Master Gardeners and bestowing those with 5+ years certification with emeritus status.

A huge mahalo to all of the Master Gardeners for continuing to serve and volunteer despite there being a transition in coordination. I'd like to give a special mahalo to Master Gardeners Lance Mohler and Eric DeMaria who have been invaluable in making sure things get done and keeping things moving along.