



Friends of Haleakalā National Park

SPRING 2015

P.O. Box 322 ☼ Makawao, HI ☼ 96768 ☼ www.fhnp.org

YOUNGEST PARK LOVERS WILL HAVE NEW PROGRAM

By Katelyn Thomson and Polly Angelakis
Haleakalā National Park

This summer, Haleakalā National Park will unveil a new junior ranger program. The goal of junior ranger programs is to inspire the next generation of park stewards through self-guided activities that focus on the resources and importance of national parks. The origin of junior ranger programs dates back to 1930, when a Yosemite park naturalist started a Junior Naturalist School. Today, these programs exist throughout the national park system.

The revision of the Haleakalā Junior Ranger program was spearheaded by education specialist Katelyn Thomson and funded through a 2014 superintendent's grant. Every year employees can compete for superintendent's grants in amounts up to \$5,000. Thomson wrote a successful proposal and was awarded a \$5,000 grant.

Thomson enlisted two outstanding volunteers, Eliot Carter (age 6), and Lisa *See Youngest, page 2*



Eliot being sworn in (again) as a Haleakalā Junior Ranger with Wendy Swee. *Haleakalā National Park photo*



HIKERS FIND A FRIENDLY FACE AT THE END OF A TOUGH TRAIL

Many a weary hiker has stumbled into Kaupō General Store, eager to chug a cold soda or savor a Häagen-Dazs bar after a tough trek down the Kaupō Gap trail. These chilly treats are available because of the dedication of storekeeper Linda Domen, who has been behind the counter at this historic Maui store since the late 1970s. With her husband, Manny, she makes the long journey to town to bring back the snacks beloved by hikers and by those who drive along the rugged Kaupō coast, then shares her knowledge of the road, her aloha for Kaupō, and the two flush toilets so welcome to visitors at this distant outpost.

The Domens took over running the store from its original owners, the Soon family. Linda remembers meeting the legendary Nick Soon when she and Manny hiked out of the crater in 1970. The Kaupō Store was one of five owned by the Soon brothers, scattered along the remote East Maui coast. Built by Nicholas Yee Soon, it opened in 1925. Nick Soon, his wife, Yuk Len Hiu, and their children, Rose, Albert, Alfred, Evelyn and Winifred, lived in the house next door.

Today, the store looks much as it did when Mr. Soon died in the mid-1970s, and the interior shelves hold memorabilia of this creative photographer and technological whiz, including his array of photo gear. Mr. Soon used electricity from his windmill to show movies to local kids and reportedly put together a Model T truck from parts shipped into *See Hikers, page 8*

Carter (his mom), who helped revise the booklet as part of a home-school project. Park interpreters and resource managers provided oversight and input. Eliot has completed all of the requirements to become a Haleakalā Junior Ranger 13 times and has an insatiable passion for learning. He has earned junior ranger badges in seven national parks. Eliot and Lisa used several of these parks' activities as starting points.

The new booklet will reach a broader age range. The program is the same: Families request a free activity booklet at any Haleakalā visitor center. After completing the requirements, reviewing their work with a park ranger, and saying the pledge, participants are awarded an official Haleakalā Junior Ranger badge.

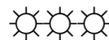
The park's old junior ranger booklet was originally created in 1998, updated in 2002, and new graphics were added in 2007. The new book will be larger, with color printing throughout most of the book. A range of "badge points" will let kids know how difficult an activity is. One badge indicates easier activities; three indicates harder ones.

To make the booklet accessible to a wider audience, candidates will complete a required number of badge points based on their age. The activities focus on parkwide themes so visitors can complete the requirements in any part of the park. New activities include: Climate Friendly Family; Wilderness; Stump the Ranger; and many others. Stay tuned for the unveiling this summer!



Eliot (standing, left) and his home-school group on a park field trip with Ranger Katelyn Thomson.

Haleakalā National Park photo



STORY CONTEST BIG PART OF THE PARKS' CENTENNIAL BUILD-UP

Got a great park story to share? You could be a winner in the Find Your Park campaign celebrating a big birthday for the National Park Service (and our own Haleakalā National Park).

Haleakalā is joining parks, programs and partners across the country to encourage people to find their park and share their stories online at www.FindYourPark.com. Launched by the National Park Service and the National Park Foundation, Find Your Park is a public awareness and education campaign celebrating the milestone centennial anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016 and setting the stage for its second century.

The NPS, which now manages more than 400 national parks, will be a century old on Aug. 25, 2016. Haleakalā National Park has the distinction of sharing the same birthday month, as part of the original Hawai'i National Park. The nation's 11th national park, it was created on Aug. 1, 1916, with headquarters at Kīlauea on Hawai'i Island. Haleakalā was dedicated as a separate national park July 1, 1961.

As part of the Find Your Park centennial celebration, park lovers are invited to share their stories for the Centennial Project, a contest that offers prizes for the top 100 Find Your Park stories. The website invites park visitors to "share what a park is to you in whatever way you think best: a song, a photo, a painting, a poem, a dance or video—anything you want."

Other options for celebrating the centennial include supporting your favorite park through volunteering or donations or by joining the National Park Foundation or local groups such as the Friends of Haleakalā National Park

HAPPY CAMPERS FIND LOTS TO LIKE ON FRIENDS' SERVICE TRIP

By Lulu L. Wong

The Top 10 highlights of my service trip, March 14-15, 2015:

10. Sleeping in my down sleeping bag under a blanket of stars and a crescent moon, watching Cassiopeia, Orion, Polaris go out one by one as dawn approached.
9. Feeling the crunch of ice crystals, the sinking sand, the soft cushion of wild grass, the sharp edges of lava bombs beneath my boots.
8. Smelling the scent of onions, garlic, mushroom, zucchini, eggplant and olives simmering on the propane stove and imagining how delicious the pasta sauce would taste after a day of removing *heterotheca* in Waikau.
7. Enjoying the sensation of blister on my pinky toe sliding down the sand trail from the summit to Kapalaoa cabin and the ache of my quads, glutes, and calves after 6 miles and a 2,000 ft. descent on Day One.
6. Watching the sunset in shades of magenta, periwinkle, fuchsia, azure and, ultimately, a fast fade to black.
5. Sipping hot coffee or tea, with a generous splash of Drambuie, waiting for the sun to rise and seeing the rays slowly dance across the early morning sky, lassoed by the mischievous demigod Maui so we can all fit more chores into daylight.
4. Feeling the presence of our ancestors in Pele's Paint Pot and bowing my head to receive their many blessings.
3. Happily discovering that NONE of the eight volunteers in our cabin snored!
2. Sitting at the communal table at dinner and talking, laughing and feeling inspired by my fellow volunteers to be a better person (especially Bobbie who cleaned the pit toilet with a smile while I gagged just taking her photo).
1. Meeting Matt, Gabe, Peter, John, Elizabeth, Greta and Bobbie—seven kind-hearted, fun, curious, hardworking and amazing people. Thank you for the pleasure of your company these past three days and for teaching me the look, smell and feel of the hospitality and kindness of strangers. You will forever be in my heart.



Lulu Wong of Napa, Calif., applies some elbow grease during a Friends of Haleakalā National Park service trip. *Matt Wordemann photo*

And here are a few words from Elizabeth, who also enjoyed her first service trip:

The crater views and our hikes were just so diverse and beautiful, and I would absolutely want to volunteer again. My favorite was the hike on the second day when we went off the well-traveled trail and headed toward our *heterotheca* weed-removal job ... the mountains of colors while hiking on the narrow trails ... all that jagged lava rock as we hiked down into the valley ... and the steep, vertical and dry band of the rocks, where I could only imagine the power and grace of the waterfall into the valley; it was just so breathtaking, and I felt so lucky to be there. I think I benefited more from this trip than I had actually contributed. I was on a crater "high" for a few days after the trip. Ah yes, the early signs of addiction; the good kind, of course.

HALEAKALĀ NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TRIPS FOR 2015

We have found that the hike along the Kaupō Gap trail, while epic, is very challenging, especially for novice backpackers. For this reason, we plan to re-assign the Service/Learning trips to outings to Hōlua or Kapalaoa cabins in 2015, as shown in the schedule here. We will still plan to hike out Kaupō Gap on some Palikū trips, but will restrict these to more experienced backpackers. Note that while the service trip dates and locations are firm, the choice of which trips to have as service/learning is tentative. Please visit our website or contact a trip leader if you have questions.

Here's the schedule for 2015 service trips:

Date	Location	Leader
May 23-25	Palikū	Joani
June 13-15	Kapalaoa	TBD
July 3-5	Palikū (2)	Delphine
Aug. 15-17	Hōlua (1)	Sorin
Sept. 5-7	Palikū (2)	Keith
Sept. 19-21	Kīpahulu	Elizabeth
Oct. 10-12	Kapalaoa	Joani
Nov. 7-9	Hōlua	Christy
Dec. 5-7	Kapalaoa	Keith

- (1) Service/Learning
- (2) Kaupō Gap

This schedule is subject to change. Please contact the trip leader to confirm dates, cabins and mission. The last date of each trip is the return date.

Participants will backpack into the crater to a cabin or campsite and back (except for the Kīpahulu trip, for which participants will drive to the campsite). Depending upon the trip, the group will perform one of a number of tasks ranging from cabin maintenance to native planting to invasive species removal. An Interpretive Park Ranger will be along on the Service/Learning trips.

Before signing up for a service trip, please go to the FHNP website at www.fhnp.org, create an account, then log into the account to learn more about the trips and certify your readiness for a service trip. For more information and to make reservations to join a trip, call or email the appropriate trip leader:

Christy: christy@fhnp.org

Delphine: delphine@fhnp.org

Elizabeth: beth@fhnp.org (808)264-4757

Joani: joani@fhnp.org (808)669-8385

Keith: keith@fhnp.org (808)264-5429

Matt: matt@fhnp.org (808)876-1673

Sorin: sorin@fhnp.org

NEW TRIP LEADERS EAGER TO SHARE ADVENTURE WITH VOLUNTEERS

We have two new leaders for our service trips, and we asked them each to share a brief bio. Please meet Sorin Bejenaru and Dephine Berbigier.



I'm a mostly retired entrepreneur with a love for the outdoors and travel. I've been living on Maui for 13 years and enjoying all it can offer, from amazing friends to hiking and camping, boating, scuba diving, fishing, bike riding and much more. And whenever some opportunity to see other exotic places around the world comes up, I tend to go for it. My motto is that life is about experiences, and that in the end you regret more the things you did not do than the ones you did do.

A savvy traveler originally from Paris, France, Delphine graduated in sustainable tourism in Australia and decided to grow roots on Maui a few years ago to satisfy her ocean dependency issues. She now shares her time between a resort and developing a camper rental business. Hiking through Haleakalā crater was one of the first things Delphine did on Maui, and she was immediately hooked. Since then, she's been on five service trips with the Friends of Haleakalā National Park, as well as two other 3-day trips, and she's excited to get to contribute to the Friends of Haleakalā leading her first trip.



SUPPORT THE FRIENDS OF HALEAKALĀ NATIONAL PARK

Who we are ...

We are a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting Haleakalā National Park achieve the purposes and goals for which it was established: To preserve Haleakalā's unique eco-systems, scenic character and associated native Hawaiian cultural and spiritual resources so as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

What we do ...

- ◆ Facilitate volunteerism to accomplish projects recommended by park staff.
- ◆ Monitor actions and activities that could impact Haleakalā National Park.
- ◆ Urge responsible use of the park by the public.
- ◆ Provide financial assistance for the benefit of the park by soliciting funds from the general public.
- ◆ Promote programs such as Adopt-a-Nēnē to generate funds that will enhance the protection and preservation of the endangered natural resources of the park.
- ◆ Implement programs and activities that increase public awareness and appreciation of the park and its highly diverse geological and biological resources.

What you can do ...

- ◆ **Become** a Friend of Haleakalā National Park

- ◆ **Adopt-a-Nēnē** – an unusual gift idea.
- ◆ **Volunteer** in the park
- ◆ **Sign up** for Service Projects.
- ◆ **Serve** on the Board of Directors or Advisory Board of the Friends

The Adopt-a-Nēnē Program ...

was developed as a fun and educational way for you to become a part of the projects that are being conducted in Haleakalā National Park. The *nēnē* is an endemic bird on the Federal List of Endangered Species. By adopting a *nēnē*, you will be helping us protect not only the *nēnē*, but all endangered species and their important habitat in the park.

- ◆ REGULAR Supporters receive “adoption papers” that include information about your *nēnē*, an adoption certificate and a *nēnē* postcard.
- ◆ MĀLAMA Supporters receive a postcard pack and all gifts given to Regular supporters.
- ◆ ALI Supporters receive an exclusive matted *nēnē* photo and all gifts given to Regular supporters. They will have their names displayed at the park.

- ◆ ALI NUI Supporter receive an exclusive matted *nēnē* photo, a special certificate for display and all gifts given to Regular supporters. They will also have their names displayed in the park.



Yes! I want to **become a Friend of Haleakalā N.P.** Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution:

\$15 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$ Other _____

Yes! I want to **Adopt A Nēnē.** Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution:

\$20 Student/Senior \$30 Regular \$50 Mālama \$100 Ali'i \$200+ Ali'i Nui

Send me no gifts please, I want my entire contribution to protect endangered species

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Make checks payable (in U.S. dollars) to:

Friends of Haleakalā National Park, Inc. Send to P.O. Box 322, Makawao, HI 96768

You can also donate on-line using your credit card at www.fhnp.org

ALI'I DONORS 2014

Mahalo to these friends who donated at least \$100 in 2014. Your support of both the Adopt-a-Nēnē program and the Friends of Haleakalā National Park general fund is greatly appreciated.



Daniel Anderson
Kailua, HI

Donald Reesor
Makawao, HI

Coach O'Dell Marinia
Makawao, HI

Joanne Cardell
Springfield, MA

Kathy Tucker
Chula Vista, CA

Jennifer & Merelyn Clark Oakes
Arlington, VA

Todd & Heather Hahn
Sugar Land, TX

Alfredo Wheelock
Wailluku, HI

Nino Schramm
London, UK

Alan Kwon
Rowville, Australia

Awareness Walkers
Makawao, HI

Alfred Vollenweider
Makawao, HI

David Martines
Falmouth, ME

Christine Davis
Hana, HI

Mary Santa-Maria
Wailuku, HI

Lisa & Kiope Raymond
Kula, HI

Kimberly Harrod
Glen Ellyn, IL

Michael Benusic
Vancouver, Canada

Gary & Jean Stevenson
Salt Lake City, UT

Juliana Mann
Silver Spring, MD

Larry & Connie Holm Goldstein
San Diego, CA

Sarah and Michael Anderson
Riverton, UT

Jay & Marsha Nunes
Norwood, MA

Rita Kunkel
Sedwick, KS

Max & Mary Ann Castillo
Escondido, CA

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Las Cruces, NM

Martha Martin
Paia, HI

J.P. & A.P. Harris
Pukalani, HI

Jeff Vawrinek
Dallas, TX

Pam Ogasawara
Frederick, MD

James & Eleanor Lahti
San Jose, CA

James M. Beck
Philadelphia, PA

Mary Spadaro
Honolulu, HI

James Moriyasu
Kahului, HI

Maddy Garneau
Highland Park, IL

Margaret Wahlman
Mililani, HI

Jim & Rita Johnson
Hillsborough, NJ



The Friends of Haleakalā National Park is grateful for the tireless work of two volunteers who run the Friends' "back office." Aileen Ballesteros and Eleanor Schultz process your donations and send thanks and gifts. The Friends received \$7,461 in donations in 2014 and spent \$5,155, of which \$1,851 was donated to the Haleakalā National Park endangered species program. The majority of the remaining \$3,304 was spent on operations, primarily the publication and mailing of this newsletter. Mahalo to all who have donated.

PRESENTATION ON NATIVE POLLINATOR PROVES TO BE THE BEE'S KNEES

By Shannon Wiancki



Hylaenus nivicola Halemauu photo by Karl Magnacca

In January, the Friends were honored to host Karl Magnacca and Raina Kaholoa‘a for a panel discussion on Hawaiian *Hylaenus*, or yellow-faced bees. Around 40 attendees packed into the Tavares Community Center room to hear the latest buzz on our native pollinators.

Kaholoa‘a monitors bee populations (native and non-native) at Haleakalā National Park. Magnacca is a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Hawai‘i – Hilo. He received his Ph.D. from Cornell University, based on his study of the evolution of the native Hawaiian *Hylaenus*.

Magnacca started the evening off with an informative slideshow. We learned that Hawaiian *Hylaenus* bees are extraordinary examples of evolutionary radiation.

Sixty-three species descended from a single female estimated to have arrived in the archipelago millions of years ago. The bees populated every ecosystem throughout the Hawaiian Islands, from the sea to the summits, and serve as important pollinators.

In the 1890s, the British entomologist Robert C. L. Perkins called Hawaiian yellow-faced bees “the most ubiquitous of any Hawaiian insects.” Today, many are in danger of extinction. Habitat loss and invasive species—such as long-legged ants and *Vespula* wasps—are to blame.

Ten native *Hylaenus* species live in Haleakalā National Park, including one named after one of our speakers! *H. Takumiae* refers to Kaholoa‘a’s former surname, Takumi. Magnacca said it was an apt name for the bee, which is unusually fast and hard to collect. Like Kaholoa‘a, *H. Takumiae* frequents the subalpine shrubland of Haleakalā and is found at Kapalaoa Cabin.

Even the speediest Hawaiian bees don’t forage far. At most, they travel 50 yards to find their favorite pollen. They are rarely found on introduced plants. Instead, they visit Hawaiian trees and shrubs, which often have “tiny, unrecognizable or totally bizarre flowers,” said Magnacca. “They love ‘akoko. They swarm all over it.” As these plants have become rare, so have the bees.

Hawaiian bees range in size from tiny specks that measure less than one-quarter inch long to the comparatively large *H. paradoxicus*, which measures a half-inch. While some do have prominent yellow faces, many are wee black wisps that look more like flies than typical bees. Neither do they live in hives or make honey. Females nest individually in hollow stems, under rocks, or in holes in coral that they line with a waterproof secretion.

If you find these facts fascinating, you’re not alone. After Magnacca’s slideshow, he and Kaholoa‘a fielded eager questions from the audience. People seemed really interested in Hawaiian bees and would have kept asking questions well into the night!

Keep an eye out for news regarding our next community event. We hope to host expert panels on a quarterly basis. If you have a suggestion for a topic or someone you’d like to hear from, drop us a line at fhnp@earthlink.net.



Join us on Facebook for updates on service trips, talks and events, and to stay in touch with other “Friends.” You’ll find us at: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/113998833864/>

And don’t forget to check out our website, www.fhnp.org, for more in-depth information about our organization and the many ways we work to support Haleakalā National Park. Sign up for an FHNP account to receive timely e-mail messages from the Friends of Haleakalā.

If you prefer to help save the cost of printing and postage by receiving this newsletter electronically, please e-mail matt@fhnp.org and let us know.

HIKERS FIND FRIENDLY FACE AT KAUPŌ STORE

Continued from page 1



Kaupō Landing, then taught himself to drive it in the days when the road to Kaupō from Hāna was just a trail.

After his death, the family wasn't quite sure what to do with the store, but by happy chance, the Domen family had decided to move to Kaupō, and Linda Domen was looking for a job and something to do in the community. She started part-time in the late 1970s when Nick's son Alfred reopened the store, then went full time in 1980. After Alfred's death, the Domens took over running the store.

Today, the store opens about 10 a.m. every day but Sunday and closes at 5 p.m. Dozens of vehicles and hundreds of people stop by

on any given day, including many who have hiked down the gap. Linda has seen the full range, from those who hobble in to a few who have literally run through the crater and down the gap in one day.

"There are old folks who act like it was a stroll around the block, and young ones who can barely walk," she says. One guy brought his bicycle, which he had carried all the way from the summit. One got separated from his partner on the trail, having arranged to rendezvous at the store, only to find a fire truck, police cars and a rescue helicopter arriving in response to a panicked call from his partner, who apparently had forgotten the plan.

For hikers in need of some basic first aid, the store carries Band-Aids and essential oils for bruises and sunburns. Sometimes, Linda says, "I go out and cut people a big fat leaf of my aloe vera for their sunburns."

Like the hikers who crave a cold drink, drivers on the only road around East Maui are happy to see the store. They are especially happy about the two flush toilets out back, which the store maintains for customers but also shares with travelers who just need a pit stop. Linda posts signs suggesting users flush only if absolutely necessary, to keep the water bill down, and requests that those who aren't spending money in the store make a donation to cover costs such as toilet paper.

Getting such necessities to the store is part of the challenge of being so isolated. "We haul everything. Nobody delivers to us, except for one beer company," Linda says. Town trips end with a stop at the ice cream distributor, where those Häagen-Dazs bars get packed into big coolers with plenty of ice to keep them frozen all the way to Kaupō.

Besides trucking everything in, the Domens haul out plenty of trash. "People clean out their cars and put in all their McDonald's trash and Styrofoam lunch containers," apparently not understanding that there is no such thing as trash pickup in Kaupō. Recyclable bottles and cans at least provide a small reward for whoever hauls them into town, but this is the one of the ways the Domens contribute to the community. When Linda knows of someone in need, she lets them take the recyclables. "It helps me, but it's also a way I can help other people," Linda says.



Bryan Berkowitz photo

See Hikers, page 9

INTERNS LEARN THE ROPES DURING PARK'S SPRING PROGRAM



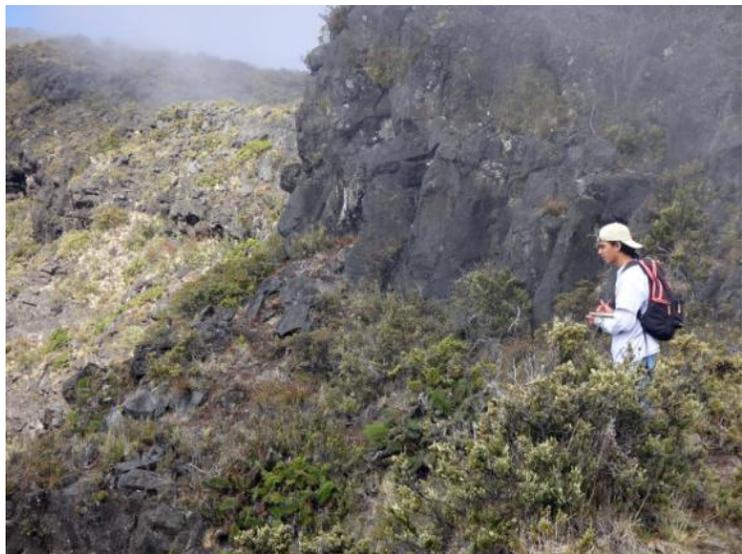
On Saturday, March 21, eight middle-school students graduated from Haleakalā National Park's Kupukupu 'Āina internship program. The middle school program is held each year during spring break.

Interns explored the diverse habitats of Haleakalā by hiking several trails and helped park resource managers work with endangered species. They removed more than 600 invasive plants and assisted with trail maintenance.

Haleakalā National Park photos

Interns learned about national park law enforcement and practiced emergency medical skills via mock scenarios. The students also received job and career counseling through workshops offered by staff from the Maui County Human Resources office and the University of Hawai'i Maui College's CareerLink office.

Funding for the program was provided by nonprofit partners Hau'oli Mau Loa Foundation, Tri-Isle Resource Conservation & Development Council, and the Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association.



Continued from page 8

HIKERS FIND FRIENDLY FACE, COLD TREATS AT KAUPŌ STORE

A patient woman who closes conversations with "God bless you," Linda finds herself answering the same questions all the time. A frequent one from drivers: Is there anything up ahead worth seeing? "One time, I couldn't help myself, and I said, 'There's just a very long tunnel with graffiti on the walls.' But then I said, 'I'm kidding. You're on an island in the middle of the Pacific. Everything's worth seeing.'"

After all these years, and the thousands of people who have passed through, Linda Domen seems to enjoy the peace behind the counter in Maui's most remote community. "A lot of times, there are big groups of people enjoying the porch, waiting for their ride, drinking more and more beer, and finally their ride arrives and it's like a great big celebration. Everybody packs up their bags, off they go, and it's back to the quiet little front porch of my store again."

For a glimpse of the Kaupō General Store and pictures of its founder and his family, go to the store's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kaupo-General-Store>. —Jill Engledow

**Friends of Haleakala National Park
P.O. Box 322
Makawao, HI 96768**

Hiking along the Halemau'u trail towards Hōlua cabin

Matt Wordeman photo

