Aloha from beautiful Kāne`ohe! In the following pages, we hope to give you a glimpse of the many activities that Hula Preservation Society has been engaged in throughout the past year. In addition to the 150 hours of video shot thus far in 2005, we also presented numerous public panel discussions, and documented many events special to our kūpuna.

And the year is far from over! In November, Uncle Kent Ghirard and his Hula Nani Girls will be performing with Aunty Myrtle K. Hilo at the Lunalilo Home on O`ahu. In Kona, HPS will be presenting 2 films and a panel discussion in honor of the late Kumu Hula ‘Iolani Luahine as part of a day-long celebration. Panelists will include Uncle George Nā`ope, Aunty Queenie Dowsett and Hilda Keanaina, and filmmaker Tip Davis.

As leaders of HPS, we are humbled to honor our kūpuna - those who represent our link to the past and help ground the future of hula for us all. On page 2, you can see a current list of the elders we have been privileged to work with thus far, and we explain why this work is so important.

None of this would be possible without the continued generosity of our supporters. As you read our news, please consider making a contribution to our Annual Giving Campaign. For those of you who have already done so, mahalo nui loa!

Aloha and Enjoy,

Mamie Lawrence Gallagher & Maile Beamer Loo

Hula People Celebrate Uncle George Holokai

2005 has been a great year for paying homage to one of hula’s most humble masters, Uncle George Holokai, who turned 75 this summer. In recent years, he has opened a “Kumu Class” so teachers could learn from his hula collection and share with their hālau.

In June, Uncle’s Kumu honored him at the King Kamehameha Hula Competition. The lucky audience was treated to Uncle’s kolohe version of “Maunaloa.” Then in July, his students, led by niece Aukele, organized a surprise birthday bash at the Ilikai where they shared a series of Uncle’s previously unseen sacred hula kahiko. Thanks to the insight of Uncle’s Kumu haumana, they made sure HPS documented these events to add to his growing hula archive as another way the Holokai Hula Legacy may live on.

Above: Uncle George at his birthday bash in July surrounded by haumana and family.
About HPS

The Hula Preservation Society is a Native Hawaiian educational not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving and providing access to the oral histories of our senior-most hula elders. The kūpuna we work with fall within two general categories:

Nā Kumu Hula ~ Many of the kūpuna we work with are Kumu Hula who collectively embody commitment to perpetuating our Hawaiian culture. As they all are in their 70s, 80s, and 90s, they are men and women who devoted their lives to hula when it was difficult to do so. Trained traditionally but needing to make a living in a changing Hawai`i, they successfully carried on ancient traditions by weaving them into their daily work through their own Hula Studios and entertaining the increasing numbers of visitors and military to the islands. Most importantly though, they have given their lives to teaching hula to hundreds and thousands of us. For that gift, we are all forever indebted.

Nā Pua O Nā Loea Hula ~ Another group of kūpuna that HPS has been privileged to come to know, are elders whose lives have involved hula in significant ways. Some were born of hula and music families, shaping their upbringing, and grounding their cultural knowledge. Others studied with hula masters no longer with us and have vivid memories of those experiences. Some became accomplished solo dancers and Hollywood film stars, while still others became skilled in unique hula forms, such as comic hula. This group of capable and varied practitioners gives us a broader perspective of the many ways that hula was taught and shared within families, in small remote communities, between islands, and beyond the island chain. Most notably, all were trained and mentored by our hula greats, such as ‘Iolani Luahine, Emma Sharpe, Rose Kuamoʻo, Helen Desha Beamer, and Mary Kawena Pukuʻi, just to name a few.

HPS meets with kūpuna one-on-one to digitally document their respective life stories. The footage gathered is then processed and analyzed so that it may be shared via learning resources such as an online Hula Kahiko Research Library. In 2002, HPS developed a prototype to demonstrate the potential of this technology to share the precious voices of our giving elders (still accessible at www.hulapreservation.org - click on “Hula Library”). Due to our need to focus on spending time with our elders while they are still with us, the prototype is relatively unchanged since 2002, but the promise is there for the future. Imagine the possibilities!

HPS Mission

NĀ KUMU HULA: (with HPS as of 10/05)
Nona Desha Beamer
Dorothy Johnston Beyer
Kahili Long Cummings
Lorraine Joshua Daniel
George Kananiokeakua Holokai
Hilda Akahane Keanaina
Mae Kamamalu Klein
Blossom Joshua Kunewa
Gordean Leilehua Lee Bailey
Joan Sniffen Lindsey
Edith Kawelohea McKinzie
George Lanakilakeikiahialiʻi Naʻope
Minerva Malakaua Higa Pang
The late Puluʻelo Naipo Park

NĀ PUA O NĀ LOEA HULA:
Rhea Enos Akoi
Edna Farden Bekeart
Gladys Joshua Brash
Pauline Wessel Chillingworth
Lei Desha Becker Furtado
Kent Kekanikolea Ghirard & “Hula Nani Girls”
Myrtle Kahea Hilo
Betsy Jhun Hinau
Emma Stone Kauhi
Elizabeth Hoʻopiʻi Lee Loy
Irene Wainekona Lum Ho
Martha Medeiros
Helie Koehnen Rohner
Kamakaneoe Hapai Sagote
Kenneth Nohealani Sharpe
Marge Murray Summer
Queenie Ventura Dowsett
Lauaʻe Maluo Yung

“HONORING THE PAST, GROUNDING THE FUTURE”
**Voices of Our Kupuna: Now**

HPS aims to share the voices of our kupuna with the Hawai‘i public through 2 public panel discussions each year. By year's end we will have exceeded our goal, presenting 6 different panels in 2005. In April, Aunties Nona Beamer and Queenie Dowsett and Uncle George Na‘o‘pe shared an evening talk-story with the gracious folks of Hawai‘i Island at Maunalani Resort’s monthly “Twilight at Kalâhuipua‘a” program.

In July, HPS produced 4 programs and documented an additional 4 featuring our kupuna at Ka `Aha Hula O Hālauaola, the 2nd World Hula Conference on Maui. These included: **Voices of Our Kupuna**: Aunties Nona Beamer and Kahili Cummings & Uncle George Na‘o‘pe; **Nuances of Storytelling**: Aunty Nona Beamer; **A Tribute to ‘Iolani Luahine**: Uncle George Na‘o‘pe & Aunty Queenie Dowsett with filmmaker Tip Davis; and **The Legacy of George Holokai**: Uncle George Holokai with students Puakea Nogelmeier and Rich Pedrina.

In late November, we head to Kona to honor Aunty `Io on her home island at the He Lei Hiwa No `Iolani Luahine Festival. We are excited that Aunty `Io’s alaka‘i, Kumu Hula Aunty Hilda Keanaina, will join the panelists for this tribute.

**Voices of Our Kupuna: Forever**

HPS’s core work revolves around honoring the lives and work of our elders by gathering their stories using digital technology. We work with each elder one-on-one, to document their unique lives in hula. As our relationship grows, we begin documenting their special events and sometimes they invite us to their wahi pana, or sacred places.

Right: Aunty Kahili Long Cummings demonstrates lei-making with palapalai as her mother, Ida Long, taught her. HPS Videographer Gene Kois looks on.

Below: Aunty Gordean Lee Bailey speaks of her special times with Aunty Maiki Aiu Lake in her hālau in Kula, Maui.

**“HONORING THE PAST, GROUNDING THE FUTURE”**
We are pleased to report gifts given through October 31, 2005. Mahalo to all of you supporters who believe that preserving the voices of our kūpuna is indeed important for the future of Hawai`i!

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Make a gift to HPS Today  

This year, we hope to raise $15,000 to support our ongoing operations. This will enable us to continue documenting the culturally rich histories of our elders for future generations. Please consider making your gift today.  

Simply detach and mail ...

Hula Preservation Society Annual Giving Campaign 2005-2006  

___ My/Our gift to the HPS Annual Giving Campaign is $_______. Full payment is enclosed.  
___ I/We pledge $_______. Enclosed is partial payment of $_______. Balance due 6/1/06.  
___ My/Our company has a Matching Gifts Program. The Matching Gifts form is enclosed.  
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“HONORING THE PAST, GROUNDING THE FUTURE”
How You Can Help

HPS Contact Information:
Hula Preservation Society
P.O. Box 6274
Kāne`ohe, HI 96744
(808) 247-9440 / hulapres@hula.net

* As an Individual ~ Please refer to our Giving Report. All contributions are 100% tax deductible and can be made online via paypal (at www.hulapreservation.org) or by mail.

* As a Hālau ~ Regular donations from hālau do much to help preserve and perpetuate the voices of our kūpuna.

* As a Volunteer ~ If you are on the island of O`ahu with some time to spare, please call/email to see how you may assist in our Office & Archive Center.

* In-Kind Support ~ Furniture, equipment, professional services, etc. all help! Please call/email if you have something to share.

This year has been a terrific one for Uncle Kent Ghirard. His good health has allowed him to get a few of his 1950s Hula Nani “girls” back in training to perform once again. This photo was taken when they went to Lunalilo Home with special guest Aunty Myrtle K. Hilo in July. Hula Nani’s left to right: Winnie Wong Naihe, Bernie Jay, Pat Hew Ching, Frances Panama Tam, Mae Lima Parish, and Beckley Pang Stanford.