



KONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
~ PRESERVING KONA'S STORIES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HISTORICAL KONA COFFEE FARM IN CAPTAIN COOK WILL OPEN FOR FREE ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Kona Historical Society's annual free-to-the-community event, the Farm Fest at the Kona Coffee Living History Farm, will take place during the Kona Coffee Cultural Festival on Sunday, November 11 from 10am to 3pm. The theme this year, "Tales of Kona," showcases Kona's rich farming history through food, music, family activities and storytelling. Shuttles, generously sponsored by Hawaii Forest and Trail and Roberts Hawaii, will be running between the parking area of Kealakekua Ranch Center and the Kona Coffee Living History Farm from 9:30a.m. to 3p.m. Parking will not be available at the Farm, and vehicle access will be restricted to vendor, staff, volunteer drop-offs and drivers with handicap placards and licenses only.

As a must-see event of the Kona Coffee Cultural Festival, Kona Historical Society's Farm Fest highlights the heritage of the Kona community. Kona's residents and visitors are invited to enjoy unique Kona stories and experience diverse forms of storytelling in Hawaii. The event will feature local music and entertainment, including cooking demonstrations with celebrity chef Sam Choy, live music from the Sons of Keawe featuring Bulla Ka`iliwai, hula performances from Hālau E Hulali Mai I Ka Lā, kupuna talk story, specialty food vendors, walks through the coffeeland led by Blue Zones, Kona coffee demonstrations with Pacific Coffee Research, community artists and cultural practitioners, hands-on family activities, pop-up exhibit, historic farmhouse and coffee mill interpretive programs, and Sandy's Drive In will be returning to the farm to cook up a traditional plantation era dish: Chicken Hekka.

The Kona Coffee Living History Farm, homesteaded by Japanese immigrants, reveals the story of Kona's coffee pioneers in the 1925-1945 era. The coffee mill and farmhouse will be open to tours where guests can experience the domestic life of Kona's coffee farmers. Visitors enter the kitchen where rice simmers on a traditional open-hearth stove before they remove their shoes to walk on tatami mats throughout the house. Outside, they learn to pick coffee and see how it was processed in the *kuriba* (mill) and dried on the *hoshidana* (drying platform). Guests can explore the gardens where traditional vegetables are grown, visit the chickens in the chicken coop or say hello to Shizu, the Kona Nightingale Donkey.

Throughout the grounds of the Farm, historical interpreters, cultural practitioners and volunteers will be hosting "Hands on History" activities where guests can practice the art of lauhala weaving, Japanese calligraphy, medicinal gardening and pan roasting coffee, among others. The "Hands on History" program is generously supported by the Hawaii Tourism Authority. Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union is Title Sponsor of the event, and Hawaiian Isle Real Estate, Candy Sargent, and Farm & Garden are Platinum Sponsors. Pancake Digital Solutions, Onouli Farms, Kona Irrigation Supply, Hawaiian First Water, LLC and West Hawaii Today are Gold Sponsors of Farm Fest.

Kona Historical Society is a community-based, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and Smithsonian Museum affiliate that has spent the past four decades collecting, preserving and sharing the history of the Kona districts and their rich cultural heritage within Hawaii. The Kona Coffee Living History Farm is the only living history coffee farm in the nation. This award-winning, historic farm tells the story of Kona's coffee pioneers during the early 20th century. For more information, call Kona Historical Society at 808-323-3222 or visit www.konahistorical.org. To get the latest updates regarding Kona Historical Society programs, historic sites and special events, "LIKE" Kona Historical Society on Facebook.

If you would like more information about this topic, photos, or to schedule an interview, please call Development Director Dance Aoki or Office Manager Cherish Ravenscraft at the Kona Historical Society main office at 808-323-3222. You may also email development@konahistorical.org. For general information about our organization, visit www.konahistorical.org.