



## NA`ALEHU MAIN STREET

(A Non-Profit 501(C)3 Community Service Organization)

Na`alehu Shopping Center

P.O. Box 107

Na`alehu, Hawaii, 96772

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[www.naalehu.org](http://www.naalehu.org)

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Summer 2005

*Mission Statement: Historic Preservation with Economic Viability (Keep it rural!!)*

### History

The Main Street movement began as a national program to protect the economic future of downtown areas and rural communities. Na`alehu Main Street (NMS) was formed in 1991, incorporated March 23, 1992 and awarded 501c3 non-profit status in Spring 1995. It was awarded a CBED contract for strategic planning in 1993 and formed the Ka`u Learning Center, later spun off. A door-to-door opinion survey in Na`alehu was carried out in 1994-95. The Vegenet process for Internet marketing of farm produce was funded by CBED in 1997 and spun off. NMS provided technical help in various ways to Na`alehu School. Murals were painted by local artists throughout Ka`u, with a grant from the Hawaii Community Foundation.

### Projects

Our Farmers' Market has been in continuous operation since December 2001 and is operating Saturdays 8 am-12 noon in front of Ace Hardware, with typically 8-12 vendors.

The Internet Café in Na`alehu Shopping Center has eight computers with high speed Internet access, plus office services in copying, FAX and scanning. Hope you like our new sign painted by local artist "Fish". The Internet Cafe is open Monday through Friday from 1-6 pm except youth day Tuesdays 2.30-5.30pm. We are finding it hard to stay open every day; WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to keep this important facility open. We offered classes in Grant Writing and were pleased to see these benefit particularly some projects in Ocean View.

Booklet on Historic Na`alehu is at proof stage. Ask to see proofs if you are interested.

We are also in process of conducting Kupuna Interviews, to capture the oral history of our area. Tapes will be made available free to the schools.

The Community Garden on the Kamaoa Road now has a driveway, small parking

lot and water for planting. We held the first planning meeting June 7th and are allocating plots within the garden to organizations or individuals who will complete the clearing, plant with native plants and maintain their own plots. Next meeting of the Friends of the Garden will be at NMS office Thurs July 7th at 6.30pm.

NMS was the lead organization for the 2004 Fourth of July Parade, and gave all our paperwork to this year's organizers. We did lose \$4700 on last year's event and have not been able to recover any of this from this year's event as had been the understanding last year. We did hold a Tea Dance in November that was popular with those who attended, and quite a successful fundraiser.

Certified Kitchen We bought a gas stove and a large refrigerator, that are being stored in the Community Center. We have funding for a hood and grease trap, and completed a business plan that included an operating manual. The kitchen will be enlarged and improved at County expense, and ADA doors added. We will need to find funds for upgraded work surfaces. NMS will also be responsible for the installation of doors from the main hall to the outside, and the installation of safer windows. Requirements and permits for all these changes have resulted in long delays in this project.

We provided publicity for a JOB FAIR that resulted in 130 job offers to Na`alehu residents.

A big Mahalo to those organizations that gave us grants:

Hawaii Community Foundation Hawaii County R&D Atherton Family Foundation

We also want to thank the following:

Taylor Built Construction Co. Ltd., for the paving and gates at the garden within our budget. Hawaii Water Supply Dept. for the water meter in fast time All those who are engaged in the struggle to save Ka`u's unspoiled coastline

NMS Board Marge Elwell, President

Teresa Alderdyce, Vice-President

Bob Martin, Secretary

Jean Shibuya, Treasurer

Diane Nelson, Artists representative

John Kohl, School Liaison

Bill Savage, Business/Membership Sec

George Shibuya, Community Liaison

Dennis Elwell, Sgt-at-Arms

Albert Joseph, Youth Liaison

(None of the above can receive any financial benefit from their position)

Glenn Ordell, Technical Director

A big mahalo to Bill Savage (now back in Salt Lake) for setting up a business plan and fiscal monitoring system.

Web Site You can access NMS programs on [www.KauHawaii.com](http://www.KauHawaii.com); look for NMS under Community. Minutes of meetings and other updates will be posted there.

### **Future Programs**

We welcome suggestions for future projects, within our general mission of historic preservation and economic viability. Please help us to create a better Na`alehu.