

THE GREEN FLASH

March 2010, ISSUE NO. 2



**SUSTAINABILITY =
THINKING ABOUT
FOREVER....**

Visit the new HPA Energy Lab Website: www.hpa.edu/energylab

The Countdown is on.....! With the Grand Opening of HPA's Energy Lab only weeks away, activities for the K-12 HPA students, families and West Hawai'i community are quickly coming together. Students will be participating in a variety of activities such as tree planting and creating their very own

footprint pledge to the world. Our keynote speakers in the afternoon will be DR. MARK HUNTLEY and DR. JORGEN RANDERS, both pioneers in their respective energy and sustainability fields. The HPA Ohana and West Hawai'i community will have the opportunity to tour the lab and

learn more about the fieldwork happening on the terraces headed by upper school science department chairman, Deighton Emmons. So mark your calendars:

APRIL 16th - HPA STUDENTS DAY
APRIL 17th - COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE (1-4pm)



IN THE BEGINNING....



ONE STEP



AT A TIME!

Let's Talk TERRACES!

If you have driven up the road leading to the Energy Lab lately, you probably would have noticed a substantial amount of work being done on the right hand side on the fields we call the "terraces".

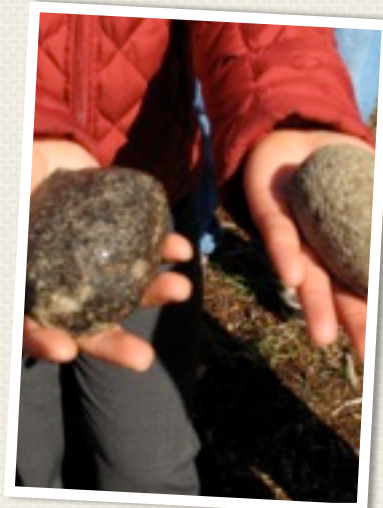
Deighton Emmons

and his upper school science students have been very busy working and taking care of the fields there growing *kalo* (taro) and learning about plant biology. Mr. Emmons believes that much of the content in his class is best learned in the practical application of it that is, digging up the soil and learning how a plant actually grows.

On a recent visit to the terraces, Mr. Emmons invited Bill Wiecking's "Green Tech" class to see the work being done on the fields. More importantly, the class heard about the vision that Mr. Emmons has for making the area a true learning site for the students and community with a Greenhouse and virtual walking tour educating people about what the area was historically used for. A Greenhouse already has been donated and the building plans currently are underway.....



TERRACE DISCOVERIES



WHILE WORKING ON THE TERRACES, MR. EMMONS HAS FOUND A NUMBER OF SPECIAL ROCKS AND STONES, INCLUDING THE ONES IN THE PHOTO, WHICH WERE TRADITIONALLY USED BY NATIVE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE FOR POUNDING HERBS AND MEDICINES.



GROWING KALO



STUDENTS IN MR. EMMON'S CLASS ALREADY ARE GROWING KALO (TARO) ON THE TERRACES. STUDENTS REALLY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF "HANDS ON" LEARNING EXPERIENCES.

5TH GRADE SLEEPOVER AT THE ENERGY LAB!

KRISTIN TARNAS and her fifth grade students became the very first class to spend a night at the new Energy Lab on March 4. With overnight parent chaperones in place and a high school volunteer (Morgan Buckner), students arrived at the lab at 4:30pm on Thursday afternoon to set up their boys and girls separate sleeping quarters for the night. At 5:00pm they then headed to GPAC to support the Hawai'i Island District Spelling Bee students before coming back to a class reading session in the project rooms and then a delicious potluck dinner in the main hall with their families. New

iPod touches were set up with educational applications such as "P Universe" where students could have a virtual image of the sky and its night's constellations. Unfortunately, the weather was not the best for stargazing however, everyone enjoyed the movie night that followed dinner, which was filled with popcorn and laughter and featured their current class read *City of Embers*. The following morning was another scrumptious meal of breakfast goodies before students packed up their belongings and headed out to finish off their week back at the Village Campus!



**The Energy Lab has since purchased two telescopes for future stargazing use!*



5TH GRADE WELCOME SIGN MADE BY EPHYSICS STUDENTS



BILL WIECKING SHOWS 5TH GRADE FAMILIES THE LAB SYSTEM MONITOR



SLEEPING QUARTERS



MORE ABOUT OPENHAGEN 2010

Upper School students in Bill Wiecking's AP Environmental Science class will be representing HPA in the "OpenHagen" student sustainability congress. With our partner school *Seabury Hall* on the island of Maui, the mini-version (in April) of this initiative, asks students to begin their studies by researching current carbon footprint data on their respective countries, as well as one other adopted country. Dr. Wiecking is challenging his students further by pairing them up to adopt and research a country each. Our first 'webinar' is scheduled for early April and invites students to share information about their initial research. During this event, our students will be taking full advantage of the cutting-edge video teleconferencing technology we have in our Energy Lab.



Future world energy leaders in the conference room trying out the Energy Lab's video teleconferencing capabilities.

TODAY'S GREEN TIP:

Sunny outside? Use those giant rays of sunlight to line dry your clothes instead of using your dryer! On average you'll save about \$25 off your monthly electric bill!

How to Line Dry Clothes: Ok, so line drying clothes isn't rocket science. But there are some tips that will help you get better results and save you some frustration.

- Buy a good, sturdy line-Cheaper lines sag heavy laundry over time.
- Don't hang your line under a tree-Birds..Enough said!!!
- Fold your sheets in half before pinning-Sheets are big and quite heavy when they're wet so they may drag to the ground and get dirty again.
- Don't fold your socks-they'll dry slower if you do and pin them from the toes.

Find out more tips from its source by visiting: www.thegreendollar.com/2009/04/how-to-line-dry-your-clothes/

MORE FUN FACTS ABOUT THE ENERGY LAB:

- * **98.7%** (A NEW RECORD!) OF JOB SITE MATERIALS WERE RECYCLED INTO FURNITURE, MULCH FOR LANDSCAPING ETC.
- * **8,600** GALLONS OF WATER IS STORED IN OUR FRESHWATER CATCHMENT SYSTEM TANK = **4,777** NUMBER OF FLUSHES

ENERGY LAB OUTREACH

As an educational learning facility HPA's Energy Lab welcomes HPA classes and workshops, as well as outside group functions as part of our outreach.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE ENERGY LAB for the month of April:

April 3 - American Institute of Architects (Hawai'i Chapter) Meeting

April 16 - HPA Energy Lab Grand Opening (All Day)

April 17 - HPA Energy Lab Community Open House (1-4pm)

April 23 & 24 - Island Energy Inquiry Workshop (All Day)

Contact the Energy Lab:

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