Jessica Osland promised that he would, and he did. On January 13, a group of eleven Hawaii museum educators were treated to a discussion luncheon with Dr. Harold Skramstad, accompanied by his wife Susan Skramstad, at Matters of Taste restaurant in Honolulu. Organized to coincide with the Skramstads’ visit to Hawaii doing museum consulting work, the HMA-sponsored luncheon gave an opportunity to hear some keen insights from this national museum leader about current trends and future issues in museum education.

Dr. Skramstad shared from his experiences as a senior director of Smithsonian Institution’s American Studies Program and National Museum of American History, Director of Chicago Historical Society, President of Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, and Vice-President of American Association of Museums, among other positions.

Among his insights offered was the wise advice that museums not “strive for the impossible” by modeling after entertainment theme parks and attempting to have similarly-wide popular appeal, but rather be excellent at serving the somewhat narrower audience of museum goers, offering products and services that museums do best.

He also discussed the innovative public high school academy located at the Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village that was founded under his leadership. Fully college preparatory, the school’s curriculum is centered around the concept of “innovation” and utilizes the museum’s resources and expert staff in student activities.

It was a delight to spend time with these experienced folks, and we are grateful that some museum professionals were able to take advantage of this opportunity offered by HMA. Stay tuned for notices of future lunch gatherings of museum educators!

by Kay Fullerton
the Bishop Museum.
Preliminary Conference Schedule

**Thursday, April 29:**
8 a.m. – 12 noon Registration & Information
8 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:45 a.m.: Keynote Address by Cindy Orlando, Hawaii Volcanoes Nat’l Park Superintendent

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Session 1: “History Alive!”

11:30am – 12 p.m. Refreshment Break

12 p.m. – 1 p.m. Annual Meetings Luncheons
Hawaii Museums Association, Association for Living History, Farm, and Agricultural Museums, Western Region

1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Session 2:
“Bringing Objects & Artifacts to Life”

4:30 p.m. Bus departs KMC for Hilo

5:30 p.m. “A Night in Historic Hilo”
$35 members/$45 non-members
AKA: a “Progressive Pupu Tour” of interesting sites in Historic Downtown Hilo! Eat your way through Hilo at stops including the Lyman Museum, Pacific Tsunami Museum and the Palace Theater. Each location will offer a selection of delicious pupus from area restaurants.

**Friday, April 30:**
8 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Registration & Information
Continental Breakfast

8:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Session 3:
“Addressing Curriculum Standards”

8:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Session 4: “An Overview of the Interpretive Planning Process for Historic Sites and Museum Exhibits”

11 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. “What’s New?” – Ohia Room
Hear the latest on new and upcoming programs and events, new organizations and sites as well as information on upcoming meetings and seminars of interest locally and nationally.

11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.
Lunch – Professional Roundtables

1 p.m. – 2 p.m. Session 5: “Dirty Pictures in Paradise”

1 p.m. – 3 p.m. Session 6: “Bringing Stories to Life Using Oral Histories”

3 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Refreshment Break

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Interpretive Walks in a Volcano
Walk #1: “A glimpse into the past - a walking tour through the pre-park history (1841-1916)”

Walk #2: “Lithic Block Quarries - What are they, and where did they come from?”

Walk #3: “When did Kilauea’s caldera and Halemaʻumaʻu form?”

5:30 p.m. Dinner (included in registration fee).
KMC’s famous Hawaiian Luau Buffet!

7:30 p.m. *Kona Coffee Days* – KMC Theater
Enjoy a little “after dinner theater” with a dramatic living history play.
Saturday, May 1:
Post-conference Field Trip:
Kona Historical Society’s - Kona Coffee Living History Farm and
Pu‘uhonua o Honaunau National Historic Park •
$45 members/$55 non-members
(Traditional Japanese style box lunch (bento) and beverage included.)
7:45 a.m. bus departs KMC for Kona
9:30 a.m. Farm Tour Hosted by Kona Historical Society Curator & Farm Director – Sheree Chase
12 noon Lunch and walk through Pu‘uhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park
1 p.m. Bus departs Park for KMC

2004 Annual Meeting and Conference
Call for submissions
“What’s New” Session

Do you know of an upcoming meeting or event that’s of interest to the museum community? Does your site or institution have a new building or program? Is there a new or upcoming museum being built or planned? Is there a new training session or course that deals with museum topics?

If so please forward a one page or less description detailing

- Who
- What
- Where
- When

And up to three digital images along with contact information to:
Tory Laitila:
Re: What’s New
Mayor’s Office of Culture and the Arts
530 South King St Rm 404
Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 523-4105
Fax (808) 523-4215
tlaitila@co.honolulu.hi.us
The new promotion instigated by Frank Haas of the Hawai‘i Tourism Authority focused on cultural and artistic events during springtime in Hawai‘i has shown a very promising start. The media blitz and promotion of activities around the State have made it to newspapers, magazines, and other media venues across the country and even around the world. After years of quietude about our rich cultural resources in our museums and other cultural organizations, cultural tourism seems to finally have taken root!

The even better news is that this is to be an annual undertaking, so prepare now for 2005 and 2006. If any of you have events or activities, not fundraising in nature, that are planned for the February 25th through May 22nd period in 2005, get your information to Tim Bostock Productions as soon as possible, but no later than September, 2004, to be included in the calendar and promotion for Hawai‘i Arts Season 2005. Tim Bostock Productions is coordinating the promotion and the Hawai‘i Consortium for the Arts is working with him and the Hawai‘i Tourism Authority to make the Hawai‘i Arts Season happen again and again.