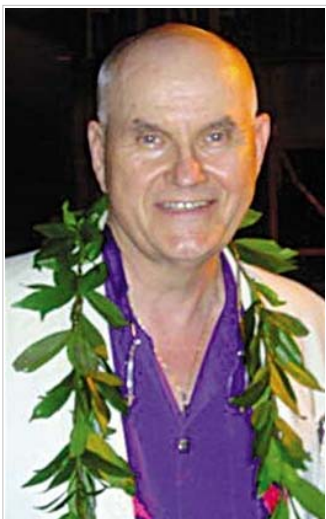


## “It was the most amazing thing I've ever been to...”



Paul Janes-Brown

**Move over Mad Hatter** - The banner read, “Welcome to Leslie’s Nothing Matches Tea Party. Please Note Martha Stewart Does Not Live Here.” Happy Hatter **Leslie Granat** and erstwhile assistant **Karen Stover** greeted guests—the crème-de-la-crème of Maui society—**Honey Bun Haynes, Fatima Cameron, Sally Baldwin, Maggie Cole, Heather Haynes Droad** and **Cheryl Tipton**. They were spirited off to a wonderland of joy and delights, such as Devonshire clotted cream frown in from Devon, U.K., special macaroons from Paris, a cake that looked like a flower pot, non-stop Veuve Cliquot and of course—tea. But not tea bags or even loose leaf, but tea posies that blossomed as they brewed (If you want to see what they look like go to <http://teaposity-usa.com>). Fatima said, “It was the most amazing thing I’ve ever been to... whenever I think about *Alice in Wonderland*, I will always think about Leslie Granat.” The ladies were the lucky high bidders at the Women Helping Women Tea last year. Leslie said she wanted this to be special so she could get a buzz going and increase the takes for charities in the future.

**Key Ingredients a Smash!** - Lei’s Family Class Act Restaurant was dressed to the nines in celebration of the Smithsonian traveling exhibition, but the real stars of the evening were the local farms that provided a royal repast for **Mitch Keyser, Ed and Diane Lane, Auriol Flavell, Clyde and Gerrienne Sakamoto, Cindy Sue Clark** and about 100 others. The Ishii Farm beets were the best I’ve ever had.

**A Packed House** - **Willie “Luciano” Kahaiali’i aka Willie K**, walked onto the stage of The MACC’s Castle Theater last week with his hair tamed to match the new repertoire he presented. Backed by the 100-piece Hawai’i Youth Symphony, he showed off a classical tenor chest voice that delighted the filled house. Willie credits **Vania Jerome** for helping him develop the chops to take on Puccini. His *Nessun dorma* from *Turandot* was memorable. He has a great instrument; I’d love to hear him take on some Verdi and Rossini, too.

**P.S.** - Although they share the same last name, **Wilmont Kamaunu Kahaiali’i**, who appeared at the sold-out Maui Celtic **Alasdair Fraser** and **Natalie Haas** concert last week, is not **Willie K**.

**Congratulations!** - **Noble Richardson** was awarded the third Marian Freeman People’s Choice Award of the Schaefer Portrait Challenge. He and the first winner, **Kirk Kurakowa**, share a common teacher, the remarkable **Jan Sato** at Baldwin High School. Let’s hope they have something else in common. After taking the People’s Choice Award in the first Schaefer Portrait Challenge, Kirk was the winner in his second year with his transcendent image of **Tadashi Sato**. No pressure.

**Clockwork Takes Maui** - **Juliet Green, Angie Doctor, John Paddock** and **Dave Duran, aka Clockwork**, had a week here and wound up the island. They did a *Club Mana’o* on Thursday, then dropped in on Hand Jive at Marc Aurel’s and sang to a rapt audience. On Saturday, they led the memorial service for the late Pat Green at Makawao Union Church. They were supported by Olinda Chorale and the Seabury Choir. On Sunday, they sang for the offertory at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Kēōkea, and the congregation demanded a hana hou. Have you ever heard of such a thing? If you missed their concert on Sunday afternoon, ask anyone who was there—they’ll tell you how great Clockwork is. Finally, they did two workshops at Seabury Hall for **Stephen Haines’** choirs. They say they’re coming back, and I cannot wait!

**Bumper sticker** - “I started out with nothing and I still have most of it left.”

Please send your niece and other information you’d like to share with others to [pjanesbrown@gmail.com](mailto:pjanesbrown@gmail.com).

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