HAAA Members and Friends of Hawai‘i Aquaculture and Aquaponics

There has never been a more important moment for aquaculture in Hawai‘i. Our islands carry a long tradition of innovation and stewardship, from the early builders of loko i‘a to the researchers and industry leaders who helped Hawai‘i earn its reputation as a global center for responsible aquaculture. Today we have a chance to build on that legacy in a way that brings people together and opens new doors for the entire community.

As I step into this role, I am focused on helping HAAA become a stronger connector and a clearer voice for everyone involved in this work. Our industry needs an organization that brings farmers, researchers, entrepreneurs, and community partners into the same conversation, and one that represents our interests with confidence and credibility at the Legislature and across agencies. My goal is to help rebuild that capacity and strengthen the support network that our producers and partners deserve.

We are preparing for a more engaged and more visible chapter in the life of this association. That includes improved communication, better coordination across the islands, and more opportunities to learn from one another. We are planning practical events and workshops, renewed collaboration with research institutions, and ongoing conversations with policy leaders who influence the future of our sector. Through all of this, we will keep our focus on responsible growth, community benefit, and alignment with the values that make aquaculture in Hawai‘i so unique.

As HAAA makes the transition from a volunteer and member driven association to one requiring financial support from grants and philanthropic sources, your participation remains essential. Much of our work has taken place quietly behind the scenes, but we are committed to becoming far more visible through regular updates, an improved web presence, active social media, and events that keep our members informed and engaged. I want our community to have a clear view of our priorities, our progress, and the opportunities ahead.

As we step forward together, I invite you to join or rejoin HAAA for the coming year. Your involvement strengthens our collective voice and helps us advance the work that matters to all of us.

With the deepest aloha,
Dick Jones
Executive Director
Hawai‘i Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association (HAAA)