
PaddleBlade

Lanikai Canoe Club Newsletter Vol. 4, No. 2, October 2007

Message From the President

Congratulations on a successful season! Lanikai Canoe Club would not be what it is today without the help of our many volunteers and supporters, who give their time and donate their resources to make it all happen throughout the year.



This year, we started off the season with our annual Blessing. It was a beautiful day and many showed up to join hands and hearts in celebration of the beginning of a new season. Mahalo to Kahuna Pule and his team for making this a special occasion for us. And thanks to the efforts of Brent Bixler, John Foti, Kalani Irvine, Allan Dowsett and others who helped complete the refurbishment of the **Hokulele** just in time for our first Regatta. The Hokulele performs beautifully in the water as was seen as she was very instrumental in the success we had all season long.

We also had a new Mirage and a new Bradley join our fleet – the **Poina Ole Waiwai** – which was named in memory of Will Rich and the **Mahoahoa** which was named in memory of Toby Medeiros.

As our Regatta season got into full swing, we were faced with the many challenges of managing a large group of paddlers. One important question being “How do we create a unified group with such a large club, and at the same time accomplish our mission?” This

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was the task at hand that our volunteers - Board members and Coaches - were faced with. I am proud to say that, for the most part, with our members’ support, positive examples and encouragement on the beach and at the races, this was accomplished and we were able to complete an almost undefeated Regatta season. However, there is always room for improvement, and I believe next year we can be stronger and better as long as we continue to respect each other, our equipment and our neighbors.

This is what makes Lanikai Canoe Club so special and the successful club that we are today.

Mahalo to all of you for making it happen!

Judy Irvine
President, Lanikai Canoe Club



For this coming season...

We have finally completed our Canoe Rack (YAHOO, THANK YOU ERIC LEVORA, parents and paddlers who helped complete this project!!) and are in the planning stages of Phase Two of our longhouse project. New light fixtures have been installed and the electrical has been replaced, and we are now looking



Canoe Rack

at reorganizing the inside of the longhouse. Anyone interested in helping, please contact Judy Irvine at irvineohana@hawaii.rr.com.

We also have our Youth One Man Program application process starting again in November. So check our website at lanikaicanoeclub.org for more info which will be posted shortly.

On Sunday, November 25, 2007, at 4:30pm, we will be electing our Board of Directors at our Annual meeting. We will be having a Pot Luck at the park, so please join us for some fun after your day in the sun. And if you are interested in joining LCC's Board, please contact Mike Gibson at mgibson@awlaw.com.

Also, we are looking for an Editor/Publisher for the Paddleblade...so if you have talent and time to share, we need you! please contact Judy Irvine at irvineohana@hawaii.rr.com.

Molokai Hoe 2007 - Congratulations to all our crews! (Na Wahine photos unavailable)



1st Crew - 7th Overall



2nd Crew - 1st Place Koa Open



3rd Crew - 41st Overall



Masters 55 Crew - 7th Masters 55s, 91st Overall

World Sprints 2008

It's hard to believe, but preparations are already underway for the IVF World Sprints 2008 competition in Sacramento, California! This international outrigger canoe sprint competition is truly a global event held every two years – past competitions have taken place in Tahiti, Fiji, Aotearoa and Hawai'i, and have included teams from over 20 countries in a weeklong event that celebrates Hawaiian outrigger canoe paddling.

Next year's competition takes place at Lake Natoma outside of Sacramento, California in August 2008. The



World Sprints include competitions in 1-man, 6-man and 12-man events. Lanikai Canoe Club has plans to enter crews in many divisions including the open men and women, masters men and women, and even a 19 and under crew.

Qualifying time trials for crews will take place at Ke'ehi Lagoon on November 11th. These trials will determine which crews will move on to compete at the World Sprints competition.

A Successful Keiki Event

By Ricky Bermudez

On July 1, 2007, the Lanikai Canoe Club and the Kai One Canoe Club joined forces and challenged each other to a fun canoe race for our keiki paddlers. The intent of the race was to get the keiki paddlers from both clubs to meet their neighbors and participate in a fun day of paddling and other activities. The paddlers ranged in age from 7 to 14 years old.

The weather was especially beautiful and calm for our event day. The races started at about 9:30am and the race course was a little over a quarter mile. The paddlers started and finished at the LCC practice site. The 7 and 8 year olds started the races that day by lining up on a big orange bouie and racing out to the Mokulua islands, turning on an escort boat and water official on a surf board, and then back. It was quite a distance for them but they came in with all smiles. The races ended at about 11am. Then everyone went up to Lanikai Park for a BBQ, games and door prizes. Without the huge support from the coaches, parents and community, we would not have had such a successful and fun event for the keiki.

A BIG MAHALO to the following:

All the coaches and parents from LCC and Kai One CC who organized the race, set up the race course, set up the crews, life guard, and safety boats;
The Puakea Foundation who donated all the BBQ stuffs;

Our head Chef Lee Bell who prepared it all;

Agnes Portuguese Bake Shop for donating onolicious baked goods;

All the volunteers who took pictures and organized the games at Lanikai Park;

And donation of prizes from Kimos Surfhut and Island Paddler;

The kids played volleyball, soccer, football, basketball, and even had potato sack races. The parents also joined the fun by pelting the kids with water balloons. It was a great day for everyone! And we are talking about doing it again next year.

Did You Know by Mauiola Olds Aspelund



That Lanikai is a volcanic crater? The Mokulua (Twin) Islands are part of the other side of the crater. The names of those Islands are Mokunui (Big Island) and Mokuiki (Little Island).

That the ancient name for the Ahupua'a of Lanikai is Ka'ohao which means "The tying" ? Ka'ohao refers to two sisters who got into an argument while playing a game of Konane (Hawaiian Bowling), and as their punishment they were tied together.

That in ancient times Ka'ohao was a fishing village? There is a Akua I'a * (Fishing God) shrine at each end of Ka'ohao. One is at Wailea Point (Bellows end) and the other is at Alala Point (Kailua End). Our ancestors would stand atop the (treeless) Mountains to watch for i'a ku (a run of fish) and were able to direct the other Lawai'a (fishermen) to the i'a (fish).

That the great King Kualii was born and dedicated at Alala Fishing Shrine? King Kualii is responsible for the law of the splintered paddle. (When friends or strangers approached, they were always invited into the hale (house) for food and drink. (LCC's canoe "Kualii" was given her name by my nephew Vincent Olds in honor of our ancestor).

That in later years watermelons were farmed and turkeys raised in Ka'ohao? Windmills were built to pump water into the watermelon patches. (There were several fresh water springs that have been filled in).

That the original outlet for Ka'elepulu stream was where the Kailua Boat Ramp is. One would have to wait for the tide to go down to drive their carts and cars across and into Ka'ohao. The outlet was eventually re-routed to where it is at Buzz's and the Kawainui Bridge was built.

Author's notes:

I have left out the placement of ke, ka, etc., in order to make the reading of the Hawaiian words easier for those Who do not speak the language.

Most of the knowledge within was given to me by my Father who was born in 1902 and passed at the age of 93.

The name for the two wooden outrigger booms on Hawaiian outrigger canoes are 'iako' NOT 'Taku' and is constantly mispronounced by most paddlers. A I'a ku is a run of fish.

2007 Duke Kahanamoku Long Distance Race by Pete Roney

For many of Lanikai Canoe Club's younger paddlers the beginning of the school year means the end of the paddling season. Typically the Lanikai youth paddlers begin practicing in the afternoons of April and May and put away their paddles after the Hawaii State Regatta Championships in early August. Because the minimum age for the Moloka'i Channel races is 18 years, and the conflicts that exist with mainland colleges and high school sports, few of the young men and women participate in the long distance season which culminates in early October. This year Zane Chess, a 22 year old steersman and long time LCC paddler, decided to try to put together a group of young paddlers to race in the LCC sponsored annual Duke Kahanamoku Long Distance Race. Held this year on 8/19/07, it is usually the first long distance race of the season and runs approximately 23 miles from Kailua Beach to Hilton Hawaiian Village Pier. Zane should be acknowledged not just for racing but for even trying to get nine 17-21 year-olds males, a canoe, and an escort boat to the starting line of a long distance race. Thanks to the support of the Tom Connor, Pat Erwin, the Upper Division Men, Excel, Foti Brothers, and the mother club, all nine young men showed up on that beautiful August Sunday morning with paddles, most of their clothes, some water, and absolutely no fear or apprehension. In addition to Chess the crew included **Matt Crowley 21, Chad Martin and Paul Casken 20, Kirk Mueller and Pat Dolan 19, Damian Casken 18, and Ryan Dolan and Jack Roney 17.** One can easily picture the hormonal energy, minimal concentration, and young male humor at that pre race meeting. They left the beach excited, undaunted and ready to have fun.

The ocean was rough and challenging. The crew changes were not perfect (with one complete 3 man miss and two dropped paddles). In addition, the on board escort coach takes responsibility for some admittedly mediocre course decisions. A couple of close calls at Black Point and the waves at Diamond



Head added to the coaching "excitement". However, it was amazing to watch these nine young guys with relatively little experience and few preconceived ideas about long distance racing, simply paddle with enthusiasm and all they physically could give. Their energy, effort and speed were at times, unbelievable and always entertaining. No complaining, no coaching from the canoe, no subtle comments to hinder the spirit, just a lot of raw effort and power —every where. The old admonition to "just paddle" was in its purest and most energetic actualization. In the end they were overtaken by some more experienced crews but still finished seventh overall.

While only Matt and Chad will be available for the Molokai Ho'e, as all these young men mature and work in to the upper division, it is not hard to imagine how LCC will be positioned to continue a tradition of distance paddling like no other neighborhood canoe club. Congratulations to all (and their parents) on a great season and a memorable 2007 Duke Kahanamoku Race.

And MAHALO to all of our LCC volunteers, Mollie Cates who gave her time so generously helping announce the men's race finishers on the Pier, and our Duke Race sponsors: Hilton Hawaiian Village who provided a great lunch for our paddlers, and Anheuser Busch who donated funds and O Tahiti Water for our paddlers.

End of Season Paniolo BBQ

By Kris Krengle

It is no small task to find a place large enough to accommodate the members of the LANIKAI CANOE CLUB, but with a little perseverance, a great location was found at the Heeia State Park Pavilion.

Kathy McGovern Hopkins generously donated to what amounted to a truck load of flowers, and the Masters ladies showed up in force to dress up the pavilion from top to bottom in tropical splendor.

There were new "LANIKAI" bumper stickers passed out at the door (you may have noticed them on a car or two lately), face painting by BJ that all the kids enjoyed, two kegs from our sponsor, Anheuser Busch, that the adults enjoyed and a DJ spinning to get the party started. Just before dinner was served, a large school bus rolled up in front filled with the NOVICE B men's crew and friends to add to the festivities. With their raucous arrival, the place was packed to capacity.

Dinner was exceptional this year, thanks to Christian's talent from Lucy's Bar & Grill. His crew was super helpful and kept the line going until everyone's bellies were filled with a Paniolo BBQ feast. And thanks to Ocean Club's refund for last year's banquet, this year's banquet was affordable for all!

Rick Leton's slide show after dinner was a hit and there were a lot of great photos, thanks to all of those that sent them in, highlighting our years' efforts that

culminated in an Oahu CHAMPIONSHIP and 2nd place at the STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Kekoa Bruhn was a delightful MC this year. He did a great job acknowledging the efforts of our head coach, Dave Smith and all the other coaches who graciously and tirelessly donated their time throughout the season. In addition, a big thanks went out to all the other members, whose dedicated efforts in the background, made LANIKAI a success on and off the water. Without people like Suzi Mechler, Mif Flaharty, Curtis Hawkins and the Irvines (and I know there are so many others that need to go on this list - please don't feel overlooked) we would never be able to logistically organize so many for so long. Finally, a heroes' cheer went out for the 2 teams that really showed their stuff this year: the 18 boys coached by Allan Dowsett, Pete Roney and John Foti, and the Novice B men coached by Mike Smith and Kern Rogerson. Both teams were inspiring with the domination of their divisions all year and at STATES. We will look forward to watching our heroes again next year and maybe adding a few more to that list.

Lastly as the Men's crews cleaned up, the DJ entertained us with the ELECTRIC SLIDE and a few courageous ones kicked up their heels to finish off the night.

I would say it was a party befitting champions. Let's do it again next year.



More Banquet Photos



More Banquet Photos

