

# the Outrigger

Outrigger Canoe Club



Hoe Wa'a Mau

Est. 1908

MEMBERS AND GUESTS ONLY



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Photos by Marilyn Kali, Stephen Riede and Di Guild



ABOVE: President Tom McTigue and the Rev. Rici Conger untied a maile lei and then she blessed the Club as members looked on.

RIGHT: Laura and Emilie Williams

BELOW: OCC Halau performed a hula kahiko: Lindsey Berrington, Patty Mowat, Jessie Richardson, Karen Kato and Nicki Mowat.



LEFT: Recognized during the ceremony were front, Neal Ifversen; back: Bill Barnhart, Thad Ekstrand, Ben Cassiday and Rab Guild.

ABOVE: Cathy Ostrem and Puakea Nogelmeier.



ABOVE: The Board of Directors gathers around the OCC Birthday Cake: Geoff Graf, Wendell Brooks, Liz Perry, Marc Haine, Stephany Sofos, Mike Cote, Steve Torkildson, Greg Moss, David Buck and Tom McTigue.

LEFT: Jane Lipp, Barbara Del Piano and Billy Winer.

RIGHT: Centennial chairs Vicki Reisner, Glenna Wong and Gloria Henderson.





# A Time to Remember

By Barbara Del Piano

On May 1st, 1908, 150 people gathered in a downtown Honolulu office to formally establish the Outrigger Canoe Club. The result of efforts by Alexander Hume Ford and a group of avid supporters, the Club's mission was to perpetuate the water sports of old Hawaii. To this mission, it has remained true, despite a number of crises over the past century that threatened its very existence. Its survival can be attributed to the thousands of members, past and present, who have nurtured and supported it.

A hundred years later, on May 1, 2008, a heart-felt ceremony took place. The lobby furniture was removed and by 10:30 a.m. the room was filled and the overflow crowd streamed out onto the entryways on both sides.

Babes in arms, toddlers, elders with canes and walkers and old and new members, assembled to celebrate the 100th birthday of the Outrigger Canoe Club. Everyone was greeted with a plumeria lei and soon the fragrance permeated the room.

Earlier in the morning, the Rev. Rici Conger of Maui conducted a blessing of the property and three of the Club's canoes followed by a rendition of "One Paddle, Two Paddle" by the Teves Trio. Then the musicians moved to the Lobby and the room radiated a sense of joy and exaltation as spectators awaited the commencement of the program.

Board Member Geoff Graff began with a welcome to guests and introduction of Club President Tom McTigue.

The President's address stressed two important elements of our Club...family and the perpetuation of Hawaiian water sports. Acknowledging several multi-generation families present, his words brought home the fact that for a hundred years, the Club has been true to its original mission. The very essence of OCC's existence, as promoted by founder Alexander Hume Ford, was promoting outrigger canoeing and surfing from the waters off Waikiki.

Declaring Outrigger to be the finest water sports club in the world, McTigue's words brought a hearty round of applause from the audience and a few tears to the eyes of many.

Bill Barnhart, Thad Ekstrand and Neal Ifversen were honored as members who have belonged to the Club the longest.

McTigue then introduced Hawaiian language expert Puakea Nogelmeier, who coined the Club's centennial motto, "Hoe Wa'a Mau". Nogelmeier explained its relevance to both past and future..."paddle the canoe forever."

Cathy Ostrem and Dodi Holmes then chanted as the beautifully costumed OCC Halau performed a hula kahiko.

Rev. Conger, a grand niece of former President Walter Macfarlane, gave a ceremonial blessing, emphasizing the tradition of the Club.

"It is not often that we are able to carry on a tradition such as the mission of the Outrigger Canoe Club and I believe it has been an honor; for by doing so, we have all been able to contribute to the history of Hawaii, especially in the realm of sports," she said.

"We have been fortunate to have had past leaders who had the vision and dream to form a club that would perpetuate the sport of surfing and canoeing. And now, with current leadership, the dreams live on and have expanded to many more sports and events.

"Many of you have taken your experiences here and have become leaders within the community and I applaud you for expanding the horizons of this Club."

President McTigue then untied the Maile lei draped across the makai stairs and invited all to toast the Club with a glass of champagne in special Outrigger centennial flutes.

Guests then proceeded to the Koa Lanai for a delicious Hawaiian buffet, topped off by a birthday cake decorated with the Club logo and centennial motto, compliments of the Centennial Committee.

Comments were effusive on how smoothly the entire program evolved and the inspirational messages delivered. It was truly a day to remember.

Mahalo for a job well done to Centennial Committee Chair Glenna Wong, event Co-Chairs Vicki Reisner and Gloria Henderson, Conne Sutherland who arranged for the lei, and Matt Esecson who passed them out. Thanks also to staff members Liz Ventura and Dickson Alvarado for their excellent work in making the day such a memorable one





RIGHT: Pam Anderson and Robbie Ostrem



BELOW: Merrill Johnston, Renee Hampton, Elisabeth Knoke



ABOVE: Michael Haig, Wendell Brooks, Hal Henderson, Mike McCabe

LEFT: Toasting the Club birthday were Betty Berry, seated; Richard Berry and Launa Love.



BELOW: Brownie Williams and Keanuenue Rochlen



ABOVE: Jen Bossert, Siana and Ariana Hunt.

RIGHT: John Craft, Jan Clark, Alyce Craft



FAR RIGHT: The Teves Trio entertained during the blessing and ceremony.







LEFT: Steve and Patricia Gilley

BELOW: Yvonne Hodgins and Lala Black

RIGHT: Todd Dickey and Diane Ramstead



BELOW: Ann, David, Sylvia and Mark Buck



ABOVE: Carol and Bob Vieira

BELOW: Lighting the candles on the Club birthday cake are Dickson Alvarado, David and Sylvia Buck, Laura Williams, Tiare Finney, Ariana and Siana Hunt, and Tom McTigue.



ABOVE LEFT: Six-month-old Ameliablu Maii with mom Missy Mowat Maii will be a fifth generation OCC member.

ABOVE RIGHT: Vik Jr., Florence and Vik Sr. Hemmy

RIGHT: Gerri Pedesky and Marilyn Haine

BELOW: Gail and Paul Dolan

