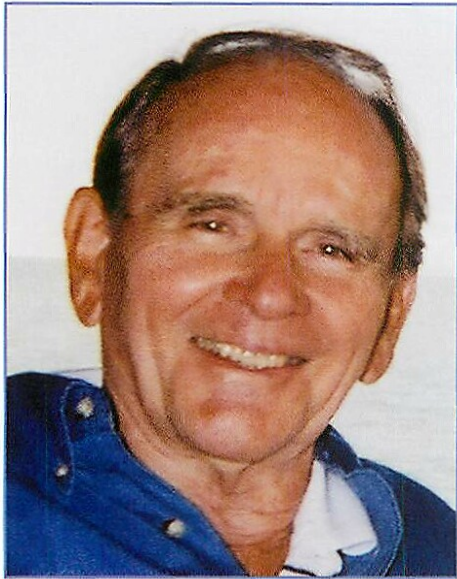


# Meet Your New Life Members

*At the Annual Meeting of the Outrigger Canoe Club on February 28, three long-time members were elected to Life Membership.*



**Bob Anderson**

By Elaine Evans

"Welcome back, boys, the canoes are ready!" That is how Club Manager Gay Harris, greeted Robert Alexander Anderson Jr. ("Bob") and his brothers, Leith and Allen, when they returned from Air Corps service on December 6, 1945. This warm greeting is one of Bob's happiest memories of his years of Outrigger membership and one of the many reasons OCC is so special to him.

Outrigger Junior Membership was a rite of passage for Bob and his brothers and sister in the 1930's. Their uncle, "Dad" Center, signed up (there was no formal sponsorship process in those days) each of his nephews, Bob, Leith and Allen, and his niece, Pam Anderson, for junior membership when they turned 12. For Bob, the year was 1933, and it cost Uncle "Dad" \$3 to underwrite his Junior member annual dues.

Bob fondly recalls as a teenager regularly paddling with his brothers and other boys in a "flotilla" of surf boards from his family home, the site of the present Dad Center Apartments, for a day at the old Club in the middle of Waikiki.

He tells tales of long-boarding with Duke Kahanamoku. And he laughingly recalls the time Duke, upset with Johnny "Mongoose" Crites' hot dogging and new dagger-nosed board, calmly waited for him to leave the beach, then walked over to Crites' board and lopped off the first six inches to wordlessly teach him a lesson. The "Old Man's" actions spoke a thousand words of advice!

Bob remembers, too, how he and Neal Ifversen, the "disciplinary committee," saved several young boys – all now prominent Honolulu business leaders – from expulsion after their destructive shenanigans damaged the Boy's Locker Room. Bob believes that one of the greatest benefits of Club membership for young people is the grounding in morals and good conduct that they receive from coaches, members and other OCC role models.

Bob has few negative memories of his OCC years, but one of his least favorite is the strong controversy that surrounded moving the Club to its new location. He was delighted when the great team of in-Club architects, Val Ossipoff, Pete Wimberly and Hal Whitaker, finally was selected and their outstanding plan for the Club building accepted. The Club was under construction during his first year on the Board of Directors and he spent a great deal of time that year talking with undecided members and convincing them to stay the course.

As it was, the Club lost nearly 400 members. His second year as a director was the Club's first year in its new location and a much calmer period.

Over an extended time of two periods of six years each, Bob served on almost every committee on the Board, and he presided as President in 1977 – a time during which the main concerns were overcrowding and the inflationary costs of doing business as a private club.

It was also the year in which another

controversy erupted – this one over the planned installation of the large Wichman clock on the makai wall of the volleyball courts. The clock is still there today and is greatly appreciated by members.

One of Bob's proudest accomplishments was redesigning, with Cline Mann's and "Toots" Minville's concurrence, the course for the Walter Macfarlane Fourth of July Regatta at Waikiki Beach when he was Club Captain in the 1950's.

His suggestion that the flags be realigned squarely – both out and back to shore so that canoes would not finish the race paddling broadside to the surf and parallel to the beach was first accepted reluctantly, but was agreed to on a trial basis. It proved so successful that his course design remains unchanged today.

For the past 72 years, the Outrigger Canoe Club has been a second home to Bob. For him, it has always been an oasis from the pressures of life and one of the most beautiful places in all Hawaii and the world to spend happy times with fellow Club members and in the enjoyment of their activities. He is extremely proud and grateful to be honored with the award of Life membership in the Outrigger Canoe Club.

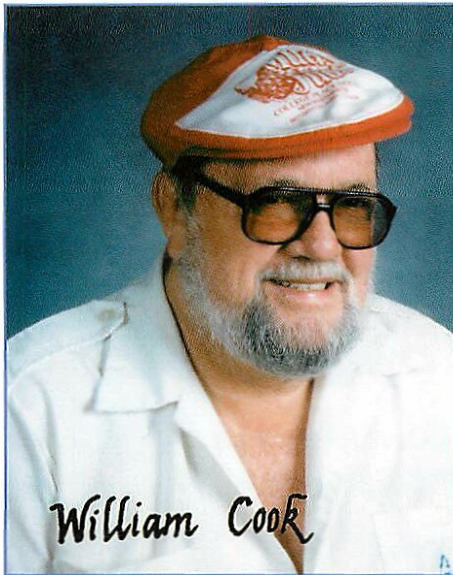
## Bill Cook

By Cindy White Yanaga

The following is a tribute to OCC Life member Bill Cook.

Bill was born in Honolulu at Kapiolani Hospital on December 23, 1922. He grew up in the famed Waikiki area, attending Roosevelt High School.

In 1935 at age 12, Bill joined the Outrigger Canoe Club for the grand sum of \$5.00 and lived at a Queen Liliuokalani Beach home from 1932-1935. Volleyball and canoe surfing were among Bill's athletic interests.



At age 14, Bill had developed a passion for these events and he was encouraged and taught by his brother George, a Club member and former member of the OCC Board of Directors.

During World War II, Bill provided Army transport service. Prior to this Bill coached the Junior and Senior men's paddling crews with Duke, which remained undefeated from 1943-1948. The team consisted of OCC members Bob Rotz, Don Denheart, Gilbert Carr, Bill Casey, Tommy Thomas, and Harry Shupak.

From 1963-1964, Bill headed the OCC beach Services. In 1964, the OCC moved from its Waikiki location to its present location. After recovering the Ka Moi Canoe, Bill paddled it back to Honolulu and was instrumental in its restoration and display in the OCC Bar.

In 1972, Bill joined the Canoe Racing Committee, chaired by Henry Ayau. For the next 16 crossings of the Molokai Channel during the Molokai Hoe, Bill was responsible for the paddlers aboard the escort boat. He made four crossings with OCC Wahine crews.

During the regatta races with Cline Mann, Bill was in charge of all the food and nourishment for the paddlers.

Circa 1973, Bill teamed up with Cline Mann, Buck Schmuck, and Jeff Kissel to set up and service an aid station for the Honolulu Marathon.

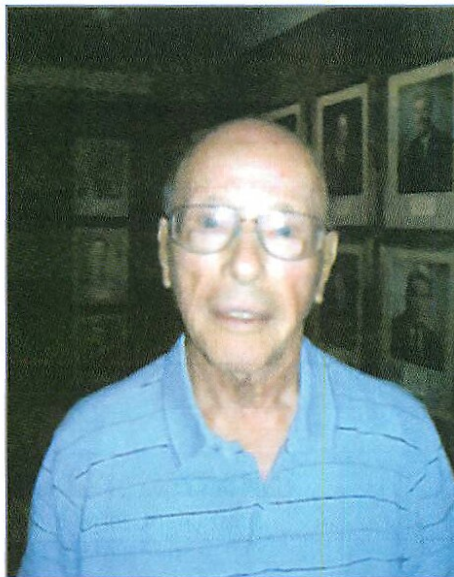
During the 1950's, Bill teamed up with Lawrence Ackerman and for seven

years was a Gold and Silver medal winner in the territorial Volleyball championships.

Bill was the father of Bill Junior, Thomas and Greer who grew as OCC members. All have pre-deceased their father.

Demonstrating his dedication to OCC, Bill has served on the Nominating, Volleyball, Canoe Racing, Entertainment, and Admissions and Membership committees and has also served as a Judge of Election.

Bill served as Treasurer on the OCC Board of Directors from 1980-1982 as well as head of the Canoe Racing Committee and Water Safety crew.



**George Alvin Cook Jr.**

By Trudy Wyatt

While George Alvin Cook Jr. was born in El Paso, Texas on September 24, 1920, he spent his second birthday on the steamship MAUI, enroute from California, and he has lived in Hawaii ever since.

He has a younger brother, William Dixon Cook, who also has been very active in the Club. In the thirties, George enjoyed an enviable life style, picking mangoes, "skateboarding" on a homemade two-by-four skateboard, swimming, surfing, and canoeing.

After his graduation from high school, George worked for the Territorial Tax Office, and through the

generosity of a family friend, George and his brother joined the Outrigger Canoe Club (for an initiation fee of \$10); in those days the Club was located next to the Uluniu Club. The Club afforded George his first introduction to volleyball.

On December 7, 1941, when George heard Webley Edwards announce, "This is not an exercise; this is for real; we're being attacked," he jumped over the fence into the Royal Hawaiian Hotel grounds and ran down to the beach to see what was happening. This was George's introduction to the war.

Shortly after December 7, people were able to return to work; George worked for the engineer in charge of tax assessment and valuation, which also involved traveling to Maui and other neighbor islands for plantation tax evaluations. He left the tax office in 1950.

George met his wife, Emma "Bunnie" Bjornson through friends on a blind date. Emma claims George courted her in a little two-man canoe. They were married in 1947 at Central Union Church.

In 1950, he became an appraiser and loan officer for First Federal Savings and Loan, which was later acquired by the Bank of Hawaii. He became president of First Federal and retired in 1982, after a 32-year career. He claims his executive skills were enhanced by attending the Indiana University Graduate School of Savings and Loan for three summers. He actually retired from the Bank of Hawaii in 1982 but stayed on as chairman of the executive committee and consultant until 1986.

George and Emma had three children, sons George Alvin Cook III and Charles Randolph Cook, and a daughter Janice Ellen Cook (DuBois).

George served as Treasurer of the Club for two years in 1967 and 1968, later as Treasurer in 1987, '88, '89, '90, and '91, and then as Chairman of the Finance Committee in 1997. He declares the Club has a fine selection of officers, directors, and Club personnel; he also agrees the present location and facilities of the Club are extremely family-oriented.