

the Outrigger



FEBRUARY 2015

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By Ron Haworth

Outrigger Koa Log is an endeavor to sift for snippets in the sand of our century glass, so that we might rediscover the misplaced and forgotten as well as pumice our modern image and achievements.

"Kakina! Kakina! Kakina!"

The chant rang clear and vibrant like a proclamation on the expectant morning air minutes before the 10 mile inaugural wahine Dad Center Memorial Distance Race in August 1974 from Moanalua Bay to Outrigger Canoe Club.

The *Kakina* was then carried with reverence to the water's edge and lowered into the sea... she was home.



Outrigger leads paddlers to the finish line of the first Dad Center race.

The Novice Nine

Some are destined to lead in life's pursuits so that others might follow; the Outrigger crew, coached by Tommy Conner, was to become the winning wahine novice nine of outrigger ocean distance racing. One hour and 21 minutes later their niche in history was gained by the thinnest of koa veneer margins, six seconds ahead of Healani Canoe Club.

Waikiki Surf finished 39 seconds behind Healani. Then came Kailua, Lanikai, and Hui Nalu. Official time separation from first to last was five minutes and 15 seconds.

And that folks is one heck of a distance canoe race!

Prior to Dad Center, wahine distance canoe racing was an untested dream of a few; a distance felt too far by too many in a sport ruled and dominated by men. But Coach Tommy Conner and the koa canoe *Kakina*, both veterans and winners in the blue and unpredictable sea beyond the reef, would prove the skeptics wrong.

Coach Tom Had a Winning Strategy

The crew itself was an unproven, risky, mix for a 10 mile race. Four paddlers (Lynn Mason Haia, Tracy Haworth Ayers, Maile Morgan Ryant, and Stephany Sofos) had never raced more than a quarter mile in Hawaii Canoe Racing Association (HCRA), regattas; four (Heidi Hemmings, Laurie Siegfried, Kristy Muller Monroe, and Moira Scully) never beyond a half mile; only Jill Maguire had raced an odometer nautical mile with the Senior Women crew. Maile was 16 and the youngest.

Naturally, all clubs faced the same dilemma.

The girls while training were good-naturedly teased by their male counterparts, told there were sharks and they didn't have the strength to pull themselves from the water into the canoe for a change. "The men thought we were a joke!" Heidi emphasized in a tone less tolerant.

To his credit Conner took on the task of coaching the crew and whipping them into winning form. He and Mark Buck, with input from Marshall Rosa, had conceived the concept of

a distance race that very year. Perhaps it was Marshall's suggestion to begin the historic race on his doorstep. They aptly named the race in memory of Dad who had done so much for women's athletics during his life.

It's Not How You Train, But WHERE You Train

Conner felt the crew which made the fastest changes would be the eventual winner and to that objective he spent one week of the two between the HCRA State Regatta and the Dad Center debut cunningly training the lissome crew to all but fly into the canoe.

"Oh, my God!" Stephany exclaimed, hands to her face. "Once, we went into Honolulu Harbor. Laurie and I were in the escort Whaler and Tom called our names for a two person change. We were very near a large container ship entering port."

"A sewer pipe discharges near here and sharks come to feed so let's see how fast you can get into the canoe," he challenged.

"Laurie and I just stared at each other, shocked! Was this guy serious?" Evidently! Conner told them to jump 70 feet in front of the approaching canoe and so they did; and fear and adrenaline produced a personal best, if not flying fish wings.

Good thing the movie JAWS wasn't released till the next year.

After practice Tom told them with a chuckle they'd made the fastest change of the day

"We were all bruised from practicing changes," Laurie explained. "All the girls had perfected a dolphin kick to propel us upward, and then we'd throw a leg over the mo'o like mounting a horse to get into our seat. This technique meant a cover wouldn't be used 'cause Tom felt the changes would be too slow and difficult."

Luckily race day was malia. No telling the consequences if conditions had been rough. The girls didn't think any of the clubs used covers.

Tracy, the only other qualified steersman, recalled Tom calling for a seat six change with Heidi, in Kewalo Basin in front of Fisherman's Wharf, another favorite snacking ground for the occasional tiger shark. "Tom was taking due precautions against unforeseen race mishaps," Heidi acknowledged.

TIMEX! It Just Keeps on Ticking

And the novice nine were keenly motivated to just keep lowering their stop watch time.

The morning of the race Auntie Eva Pomroy gave our girls a blessing, a poem she had written for the event.

Our heavenly Fathers,
E kou makou makualani
We ask for your love and guidance,
ke noi aku nei makou aloha
With the sailing of our canoe,
e malama mai I ka holo ana o
Over the big waves, the little waves,
ko makou, i kaale nui
The swelling waves of the deep blue ocean.
ka ali iki na ohuku ale
May we live through your "Aloha"
na ale popolohua o oka moana
e ola makou, makou aloha

She also made a promise...a prediction:

"What you do today is for the women of tomorrow. You will win and make history, and what you undertake today will change the future for many tomorrow. I know some of you have a fear of sharks, but they are my family aumakua and I have prayed to our ancestors to protect and not harm you."

"I was 17 and it hadn't entered my mind we were about to make history," Tracy admitted.

Coach Conner had previously advised the crew to load up on carbs before the race. "I remember pancakes, stacks of pancakes in a Niu Valley restaurant; we drove out in the Club van and Tom treated," she added.

Maile washed breakfast down with a Coke. Was it fortification in case they ran into white water? Possibly, she admits begging Tom during training to take her out before entering the channel when the surf was up. "He just laughed and left me in."

Outrigger led from the start, a strategy Conner had in his mind all along, a breakout lead in tandem with excellent crew changes and the right course outside the Waikiki surf line proved an unbeatable strategy. Tuck Siegfried was driving the escort boat.

"We were making a change about every 10 or 15 minutes to keep the girls fresh and it paid off royally. Near the finish I remember it got a little jammed up but with Heidi's knowledge of the area she brought the girls to the finish line cleanly. Heidi steered the perfect race."

"We were a good crew and deserved to win and despite the close finish I never felt threatened by the other canoes," Heidi said.

Crew members remembered Tommy had gone out to view the course the day before to familiarize himself with conditions. "That was Tom's way," Heidi stressed. "He was in it to win."

"Tom was so confident in our ability he called for a three paddler change just before the channel; fresh arms and backs for the sprint to the finish line."

The *Honolulu Advertiser* quoted Lei Faria, HCRA executive secretary: "They (Outrigger) were climbing in and out of the boat (canoe) like pros. A lot of crews lost time during changes but Outrigger was fantastic."

"We made Tom a proud coach that Sunday morning," Tracy spoke for the crew. "And as I stood on the beach after the race it was obvious our physical crew size was more agile by his design than most."

Auntie Eva's Prediction Became Reality

The novice nine won, but all crews popped the cork which let the wahine genie out of the bottle for those who were to follow with even longer and more grueling feats of stamina; the course from the sixth Dad Center forward was lengthened between Kailua and Outrigger and Queen Liliuokalani in Kona and Na Wahine O Ke Kai Molokai to Oahu are both long distance spinoffs of that original Dad Center.

Stephany was on a cloud the next day, "We were in the newspapers; the day before was a high, but it wasn't till then it sunk in we'd made canoe paddling history. Wow!"

"Dad Center would have been proud!" Tracy and Tuck both agreed.

That the girls prevailed to leave a legacy and wake for others to trace and color is yet another snippet of achievement in the sand of Outrigger's century glass.

Mahalo and Aloha: Coach Tommy Conner, Auntie Eva, Kakina and the Novice Nine Wahines.



Dad Center ladies 40 years later: Laurie Siegfried, Tracy Haworth Ayres, Stephany Sofos, Heidi Hemmings recall their first distance race.

continued on page 4

Backward Glances

By Ron Haworth

48 Years Ago December 1967

The Outrigger Canoe Club will have its athletic image flashed across the nation's television screens early next year as part of a CBS special "The World of Duke Kahanamoku."

John McMahon, Surf Committee chairman, made this startling revelation when he confirmed the Outrigger will be the host for the 3rd Annual Duke Kahanamoku Surfing Championships to be held December 15-18.

As host club Outrigger will offer full privilege to the competing surfers and judges. They will also be honored guests at the Club "Sand Blast" on the evening of December 18. Sport's photographer, Larry Lindberg, will film the evening's festivities, so all you 'Mommies' and 'Papas' who'd like to swing before 60 million TV viewers, leave your shoes at home.

Three of this year's contestants are Club members: Butch Van Artsdalen, Fred Hemmings Jr., and Paul Strauch. And the founder of the biggest of all contests, Kimo McVay needs no introduction.

The Duke Championships are the Olympics of surfing and Outrigger as host club finds itself in a position which would be envied by any club in the country.



continued from page 3

Koa Log Footnote:

Forty-one canoes raced in last year's 40th Dad Center Anniversary, testament to Auntie Eva's vision, but nostalgia did not participate; *Kakina* stayed in the garage (but the other Grand Dame Koa of outrigger canoe racing, the *Leilani*, carried OCC paddlers to victory in the koa division).

OCC crews went on to dominate the Dad Center event winning 19 of the next 29 Dad Center races, and finishing second in the other 10.

In 1975 Outrigger set the 10 mile course record which was never broken for that distance. Coincidentally, two months prior the movie JAWS was released. The crew consisted of many of the same girls.

Today, the race is 25 miles long from Kailua Beach Park to the OCC.

Members Please Note

If your children or spouses want to paddle this year and do not have their own membership number, be sure to get their membership applications in to the Executive Office.

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Board Election and Annual Meeting

Voting members (*Life, Senior, Regular, or Intermediate* members) will be receiving their 2015 election

packet in late January. The packet includes the *Notice of the Annual Meeting* and the ballot for the 2015 Board of Directors election, along with related documents. Please exercise your voting privilege and follow the instructions carefully.

The guidelines for nominating and electing directors are described in the Club's Bylaws. The Board of Directors consists of thirteen members elected from the four classes of membership eligible to vote. Members of the Board are elected for two-year terms. No member may be elected to more than three consecutive terms, but may serve more than three terms that are not successive.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by former Board Presidents Geoff Graf & Tom McTigue, has nominated the following ten candidates for election to the Board of Directors:

Jenifer Bossert (I), Candes Meijide Gentry, Rick Humphreys, Anthony Hunt (I), Serge Krivatsy (I), Alice Lunt, William K. Meheula, III, Fred M. Noa (I), Jonathan Steiner, and Glenna Wong.

When your ballot arrives, it will include voting instructions. **The final day to vote is Sunday, February 22, 2015 at 6:00 pm.** Please mark your ballot, place your ballot in the ballot envelope, place the ballot envelope in the return envelope and **sign the return envelope**. Ballots without signatures on the return ballot are discarded. Your signature tells the *Judges of Election* that the ballot inside is your ballot and was not completed by someone else. If you are delinquent in paying your bill, your ballot is invalid.

There are eight openings to be filled. **You may vote for up to, but no more than, eight candidates.** The eight candidates with the highest number of votes are elected.

Election results and committee reports will take place at the Annual Meeting on Monday, February 23, 2015 at 5:30 pm in the *Koa Lanai*.

Please mark your calendars for this important date and remember to cast your vote!

(I) = Incumbent

At the OCC

New OCC Member Website

In January we debuted the new, redesigned OCC website. Our old site was almost a decade old and was well overdue for modernization.

The new site offers new and useful features including the ability to check your statement and charges online. Later in the year we will also roll out the ability to make dining and event reservations on-line.

Our new member roster will directly link with our database and will be more up to date as our members provide us with revised contact information. The new, cleaner interface will also make it easier to find the information you might need.

Since this is an entirely new system, please read the instructions carefully when logging in. **Your old User ID & Password will not work** on the new site, though once logged in, you may change them. Check it out at www.outriggercanoecub.com

Do we have your correct Contact Information?

If you have moved, or changed your phone number or E-Mail address, please notify the Business Office so that we have your current contact information. Mahalo!

OCC Photo Contest - 3rd Place Finishers



Clubscape
Sherry Wong
Just Another Day at the Club



Ocean
Jakob Vaughan
Pohai



Black and White
Ethan Bosworth
Palms Darkest Hour



Sports/Activities
Terri Needels
Cirque de Manana Falls



Anything Goes
Chris Murphy
The Challenge





Creative (tie)
Don Machado
Solar Sail



Creative (tie)
Wakefield Ward
Old Kula Barn



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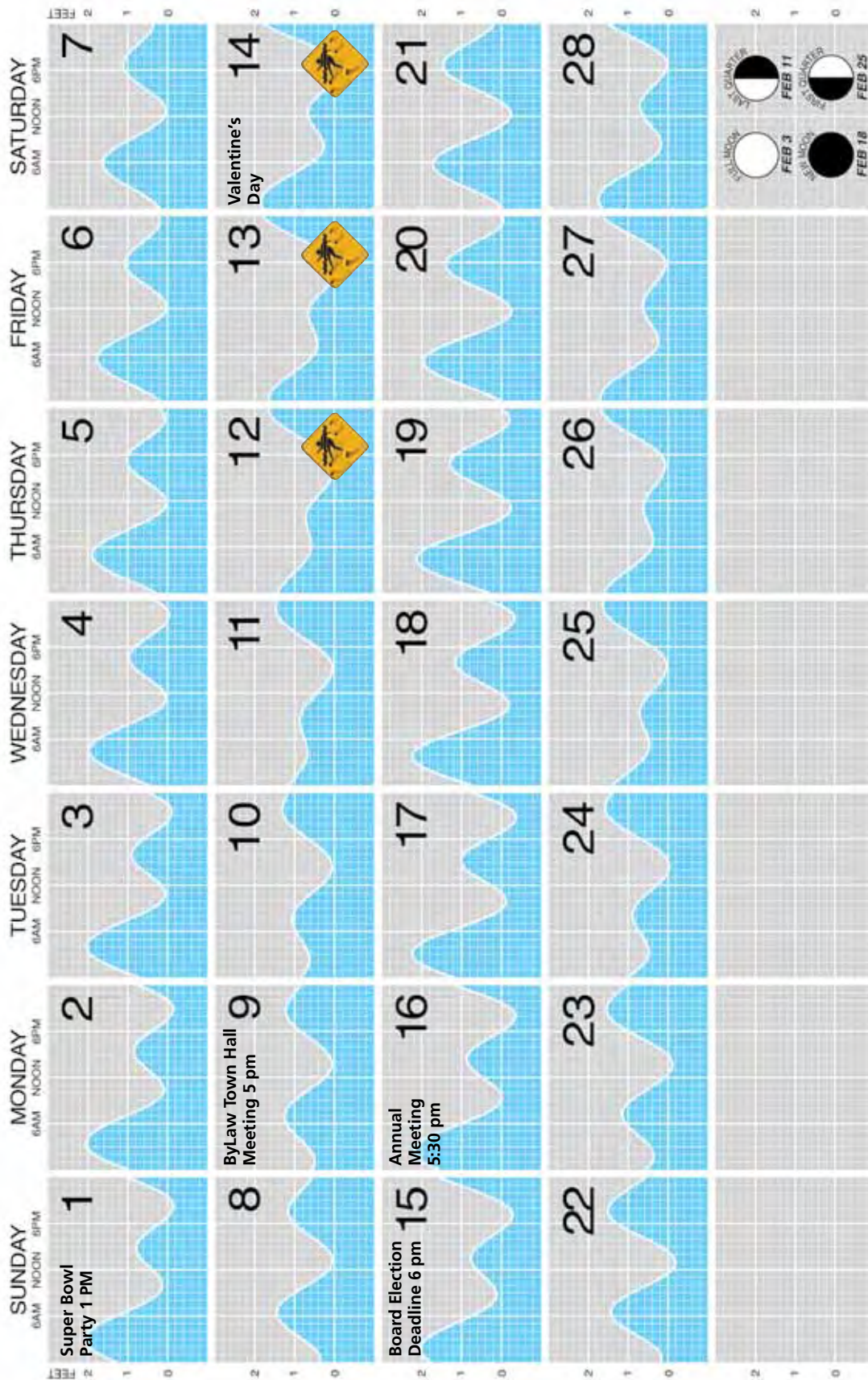
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February 2015



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As the Terrace Turns

Thirty-four dinner guests joined **Bob and Judy Maguire** at the Club to celebrate Bob's 90th birthday. A small jazz band livened up the party and the jazz music was also enjoyed by the dinner guests, the wait staff and the other diners at the Club.

Members are invited to submit items for this column. Items may be left at the Front Desk or emailed to occmag@aol.com. Items received by February 25 will appear in the April magazine. Items received after February 25 will appear in May. Be sure to include your name and phone number in case additional information is needed.



The OCC Bridge Group gathered for their annual Christmas Luncheon on December 15 at the Club. Front Row: Janet Feeback, Claudia Madalena, Arden Moore, Billie Baird, Gay Yamagiwa, Pat Dixon, Gay Sevier, Delors Judd, Vicki Sutton, Susan Kobayashi, Busaba Williams. Back Row: Garrett Saikley, Jocelyn Bradley, Bob Bradley, Elsa Wixom, Gary Wixom, Candy Taylor, Robin Ward, Bill Dixon, Wake Ward, Ruth Tschumy.



The Whiting family had a great adventure in South Africa. They went to see Strat's pigeons participate in the Million Dollar South African Pigeon Race, went on a safari and surfed at Cape Town. Front row: Safari guide and Anita Whiting. Second row: Dawn, Allie and Ford Whiting. Third row: Chelsea, Becky and Anthony O'Brien. Back row: Strat Whiting, Chelsea Watnabe and Jacob O'Brien. Strat says it took them 29 hours in the air to return to Hawaii.



Gar Ditz (center) celebrated Thanksgiving in Kiawah, South Carolina with girlfriend Caroline Diemer and her sister Elizabeth. "Caroline joined me and my family at the Club in September and loved it," Gar said.



Bob Maguire celebrated his 90th birthday with daughter Cory, and granddaughters Abby and Judy.

Members Enjoy Christmas Open House

Photos by Carin Rapson



Richard and Betty Berry.



Doug Hiller, Ty Jenkins, Annie and Steve Valentin.



Dancing hula in the Lounge to the music of Kula Abriva and Poki'i Vaughan were Tiare Finney, Glenna Wong and Michele St. John.



Members Toast in New Year at Casino Party

Photos by Nora Meijide Gentry



Toasting in the New Year were Gary Bargiel, Blair Grant, Steph Mohn, and Sandy Bargiel.



Ikaika Harbottle, Rachel Ross and Katherine Nichols celebrate.



Monica Giletti and David Dolman.



Jeff Davis, Mike Matta, Koa Asam, and Lynn Germain try their hand at the blackjack table.



Stephanie Johnson, Chris LaVoie and Lisa Sellers.



Bruce Black and Jeff Lee get photobombed.



Gabrielle Castor, Victoria Smith, Patti Barry, Tandy Kowalski, James Smith, Sherry Smith, and Andrew Smith.

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Nicole Floyd and Byron Ho.



A yummy array of food was provided.



Nora Meijide Gentry was ready to dance in the new year.



How else to welcome the new year but a sushi bar.

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Dancers and casino games entertained members.

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Xterra.

Trail Run World Championship

By Candes Meijide Gentry

Sunday December 7 was a spectacular day out at Kualoa Ranch for the 7th Annual Xterra Trail Run World Championship; considered the crown jewel of the Paul Mitchell XTERRA Trail Run Series. It is the culminating event of a collection of more than 70 adventurous, off-road trail runs of various distances around the world.

The day was action filled with a 5K, 10K, Keiki race, an Adventure Walk and the 21K, considered the World Championship course. The 21K takes runners through some of the most diverse and scenic terrain on the planet.

If you have ever witnessed or participated in an Xterra event, you will attest that they always put on world class

events. Xterra is a Hawaii born company and hosts Off Road Triathlons, Trail Runs and Xtreme events all over the globe.

Several members of the Outrigger Canoe Club participated in this year's runs. Here are the results from the day:

5K

Craig Neher 28:21, 2nd age group
Lynne Wooddell Neher 34:30, 3rd age group
Kaimana Gentry-Balding, 46:37
Nautica Gentry-Balding, 46:53
Condesa Nora Meijide-Gentry, 55:14, 2nd age group
Debbie Lui Anderson

10K

Corin Gentry 50:38 2nd age group
Tanya Watumull 51:03 1st age group
Don Eovino 1:04 1st age group

21K World Championship

Candes Gentry 1:55, 1st age group (10th female overall)
Bob Egbert 2:17
Steve Shropshire 2:20
Raul Torres de Sa 2:49

Keiki Run

Megan Egbert
Wyatt Egbert
Sirena Gentry-Balding
Poet Shropshire Gentry

If you haven't experienced the treacherous beauty of Kualoa Ranch, which is normally closed to the public, we invite you to join your fellow OCC members next year at this exciting event. Apologies if there are any members who participated, who are not listed herein.

MEMBERS IT PAYS TO KNOW

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Left to Right Back Row: Candes Meijide Gentry, Vik Watumull, Tanya Watumull, Condesa Nora Meijide-Gentry, Corin Gentry. Front Row: Sirena Gentry-Balding, Poet Shropshire Gentry

Bob and Megan Egbert.

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Employee of the Month

Peta Bell

By Stephen Riede

Women's Locker Room and Laundry Attendant Elisapeta "Peta" Bell is the Employee of the Month for November. Before coming to the Club last January, Peta was a security guard for the private company contracted with the Club. In the year since joining the OCC family, Peta has proven to be resourceful, friendly, a hard worker and has shown great initiative.

Women's Locker Room supervisor Pi'ikea Sylvester states: "Peta is well liked by both members and employees. She is extremely trustworthy and very reliable. I've never had a complaint or negative feedback regarding her job performance. I consider her an ideal employee and an asset to the Club."

Congratulations Peta on this well-deserved honor.

In Memoriam

Roy R. Bright

Deceased: November 27, 2014

Club Member: 69 Years

newmembers

Regular

Melanie Long

Junior

Mahina Cole
Timothy Horn
Benjamin Hotchin
W. Nate Loose
Nathan "Puna" Smith

Nonresident

Rajiv Batra

Athletic To Permanent

Regular
Cory Nakamura
Bremen Schmeltz

Intermediate

Taelson Larrow

Service

Robert P. Girrier



John Michael
Cannon
Regular



Piper Crabtree
Junior



Benjamin
Damon
Junior



Flora Damon
Junior



Kai Lenny
Intermediate



Hudson Metter
Junior



Wyatt Nako
Junior



Nathan Shea
Junior



Sean Slentz
Regular



John Slouber
Regular

For the Record

Members are invited to submit their results from local, national or international sporting events for this column. Leave results at the Front Desk or email to occmag@aol.com

Running

Honolulu Marathon

12/13/2014

Ikaika Harbottle 4:35:28

JoAnne Klinke 4:38:43

Brad Coates 5:19:15

Swimming

33rd Possibly Annual Hawaiian Christmas Looong Distance Invitational Rough-H2O Swim

12/7/14

Stefan Reinke, 5th overall, 1:42:37

Bruce Sloan, 2nd, Age Group, 2:02:16

Uli Klinke, 1st, Age Group, 2:03:20

Laurie Foster, 1st, Age Group, 2:13:50

Diane Corn, 2nd, Age Group, 2:16:21

Valisa Saunders, 1st, Age Group, 2:42:01

ON THE COVER: Michael Durkin's drone photo of the Outrigger Canoe Club beach took a second place in the Creative Division in the OCC Photo Contest. To see third place winners in the Photo Contest see pages 5-6.

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BOARD BRIEFS

Board Briefs is taken from the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors on December 18, 2014.

Membership Count: The Membership Count was 4,807 as of November 30, 2014.

Trophy Disposition Policy: The Board approved the recommendation from the Historical Committee to approve a Trophy Disposition Policy as submitted by the committee. This will be incorporated into Board Policy and not the Club Bylaws as originally submitted.

The policy states:

- All trophies and awards won by Club teams and individuals representing OCC will come under the jurisdiction of the Historical Committee.
- The Historical Committee will be responsible for receipt, accountability, display, and final disposition of all such trophies and awards.
- All trophies and awards earned at any event where OCC pays entry fees or is the official sponsor will belong to OCC.
- All trophies and awards earned by any team or individual who enter an event representing OCC but who pay their own entry fees will belong to OCC.
- All trophies and awards earned by any team or individual representing OCC will be accepted by the winning team or individual on behalf of OCC and delivered promptly to the Business Office for forwarding to the Historical Committee for display and/or further disposition.
- Any perpetual trophy of another club or organization won by OCC will NOT be retained by the winning team or individual, but will be promptly returned to the sponsoring organization.
- The Historical Committee will determine whether trophies and awards will be: Retained by the OCC, offered to the trophy winner or team, offered for Club or outside group reuse, or disposed of as appropriate.

Nominating Committee: The Board approved the appointment of Michele St. John to the nominating committee to replace Glenna Wong, who resigned to run for the Board.

Judges of Election: Gerri Pedesky was approved as the chair for the Judges of Election for the 2015 Board election.

Candidate Slate for BOD Election: The following are running for the 2015 OCC Board of Directors: Jenifer Bossert, Anthony Hunt, Serge Krivatsy, Fred M. Noa (current BOD members running for reelection), along with Candice Meijide Gentry, Rick Humphreys, Alice Lunt, William Meheula, III, Jonathan Steiner, and Glenna Wong.

Honorary Memberships: The Board approved renewal of Honorary Membership in 2015 for the following: Marie Riede, Annie Halliwell, Gordon Smith, and Demetrio Gose.

Financial Report: For November, there was net income of \$5,445. Year to date there is net income of \$84,125. Year to date \$330,000 in initiation fees have been collected and deposited in the Operating Fund. Year to date \$285,400 in initiation fees are reflected in the Building Fund and the Building Fund has a net loss of \$831,933, which is primarily due to the sale of the Kalaniana'ole Property.

Athletics: Al Darling is stepping down as Club Captain. The Board expressed their appreciation for his hard work and dedication to the Club's athletic programs.

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HAVE AN EVERYONE-CAN-WIN ATTITUDE

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LISTEN TO PEOPLE SINCERELY

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THE OUTRIGGER

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