

Paddlers Hold Annual Banquet

Photos by Pam Davis

Outrigger paddlers enjoyed their annual Awards Banquet, July 28, with a Club BBQ and lots of awards.

Head Coach Anthony Hunt presented the 2003 Outrigger's Unnecessary Though Entertaining Yearly (OUTEY) Awards to the following:

Best Crew Involvement

Besides being automatically volunteered by their coach for various beach responsibilities, this crew pitched in by carrying coolers, picking up rubbish and rigging canoes and holding boats. For their eagerness to help and their example to the entire Club of what it means to be a "complete paddler", the Boys 15s and their coach received the 2003 OUTEY.

Most Inspirational Performance

One particular set of paddlers impressed week after week much to the dismay of other club's more experienced crews. For their tenacity and ability to smoke other crews even if they were in lane 10, we are proud to give the 2003 OUTEY to Alicia Arnott, Brooke Perry, Kai Bourne, Amy Lawson and Sarah Rosa.

Best Crew Team Spirit

If you were at the Macfarlane Regatta, choosing the winner of this award is a no-brainer. For the hours they spent making the beach's wildest hat wear and reminding us that paddling can be fun, win or lose, we give the 2003 OUTEY to the Girls 13s.

Most Significant Bailout

Only a few were aware that two weeks before the first regatta, we were in need of a major bailout. For his willingness and exceptional job with the Open Women's Program on such late notice, we are happy and grateful to present the 2003 OUTEY to John Puakea.

Best Grinds Contribution

This year, there was a significant push to get paddlers and their families to stay and enjoy a portion of the day. This was accomplished by the Club supplying the BBQ and members bringing whatever they wanted to grill. From veggie skewers to teriyaki burgers and marinated mushrooms, we are all better for having learned the art of BBQ from Vaima Philpotts, our 2003 OUTEY winner.

Golden Garbage Bag

Often seen starting the BBQ up, collecting trash from around the OCC tent and making sure that everyone had something to eat, this paddler was an example to everyone of what it means to be a team player. This OUTEY award went to Matt Delaney.

Celebrix Award

Besides the crews that he coaches doing well, and helping us bring home the Oahu championship, he also managed to help paddle his way to a Gold medal. This is particularly unique given that his last gold medal winning performance was more than a decade ago. With that in mind, we were happy to give this OUTEY to Steve Van Lier Ribbink.

Team Light Weight

With a mean weight of 55 pounds, this crew was always outweighed by their boat with more than 100 pounds. For paddling their hearts out and none of them being blown out of the boat at the Waimanalo Regatta, this OUTEY went to the Girls 12s.

Unique Rigging

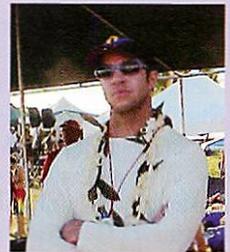
When it comes to the Open and Novice Men's programs, most of the guys consider the time trial training to be the pinnacle of difficulty. Fighting the volatile elements is usually a sufficient challenge for most, but one paddler decided to raise the level of difficulty to a new standard. For his successful completion of a big triangle with his ama rigged on the right side of the boat, we gave this OUTEY to Taio Shipman.

Best Individual Team Spirit

Team Spirit comes in many different forms and can be seen by someone doing something to urge the team on or disrupting the competition. This particular team member was largely found to be cheering up the paddlers around him. This award was given to Norton Hendricks.

Most Valuable Contribution to Science

This year's best Ala Wai tale involved a staph infection you wouldn't wish on your worst enemy. For his good sense of humor, ability to handle the ribbing, newfound placement of ice packs and involvement in Ala Wai R&D, this OUTEY goes to Bjorn German.



John Puakea



Norton



Billy and Vaima Philpotts

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