

After 110 Years, Outrigger Members Are Still Promoting the Sports of Old Hawaii

By Marilyn Kali

If Alexander Hume Ford and the other charter members of the Outrigger Canoe Club could see us now, they probably wouldn't believe their eyes. Surely they'd be proud to have started such an amazing Club that grew from its humble beginnings at the intersection of Apuakehau Stream and Waikiki Beach to what it is today.

When the Club opened in May 1908 it was just a strip of land covering 1.5 acres between the Seaside Hotel on one side and the stream and Moana Hotel on the other, Kalakaua Avenue on the mauka side and Waikiki Beach on the makai side.

The beach was full of coral and rocks. And at many times of year it was covered with seaweed that had washed ashore.

Dues for the fledgling Club were \$5 per year for adults (no initiation fee), and \$1 a year for juniors. The Club owned no buildings, no surfboards or canoes; just a promise that everything would be forthcoming.

Before the end of its first month, the Outrigger had obtained two grass houses from the old zoo in Kaimuki and moved the houses in sections down to the OCC grounds, opening them to members on June 21, 1908.

One house facing the ocean was to be used as a bath house by the members, and the other facing the lagoon was to be used to store the Club's surfboards, and other paraphanalia. The bath house opened in mid-June, but showers were only available from a hose hung from the branches of a hau tree.

If you wanted a locker in the bath house, the Club carpenter could build you one for \$2. A surfboard locker cost \$1 per surfboard space to make. You had to supply your own lock. If you wanted a surfboard, the carpenter could make it for you for \$2 and up.

From the dues of the charter members, the Club raised several hundred dollars and set about building a Club from the ground up. Soon to be built was a hau tree lanai so members could picnic in the shade.

By the end of June 1908 the Club was

considering the purchase of several koa canoes that would be built in Kona. In the meantime, some privately owned canoes were placed on the Club grounds that could be used by Club members.

Among the privately owned canoes was Walter Dillingham's *Malolo* which an Outrigger boy's crew used to enter the Club's first canoe race on July 18, 1908 during the Great White Fleet Welcome to Waikiki. They lost to a Hawaiian crew in the *Le Ilima*. Another early canoe was the *Hanakeoki* owned by Alfred Wall which the Club later bought.

A canoe shelter was built on the beach made from coconut leaves to house about a dozen canoes. There was also canoe shelter along the banks of the lagoon under the hau trees. Canoe storage was free for Club members, and the Club carpenter was announced as an expert repairer of canoes.

Said the *Honolulu Advertiser*, "Several canoes have been purchased by members who have clubbed together. This seems to be a good plan. Serviceable canoes may be secured from twenty dollars up, and if three or four go in together, say one for each paddle space, the cost to each is trifling and the right of proprietorship always insures the use of a canoe. Pine wood paddles cost about \$1.50 each and koa wood paddles \$2.50, but are obtainable only by sending orders to Kona."

Four months into the Club's founding, Harold Castle donated a three-seat canoe racer to the Club, and the Club purchased two small surfing canoes, with its eye on two more. Slowly the fleet was growing, but private ownership was still greater than Club canoes.

Before the end of the year, a bath house had been completed for the ladies, other thatched houses had been built for a kitchen and commissary, a road was being built from Kalakaua to the OCC grounds, a caretakers' cottage was completed, and the Dance Pavilion over the lagoon was finished, all in time for a water carnival and dance on December 5.

The Pavilion was used for dances to help raise money for the construction of the Club.

By early 1909 the Club was running out of money and in danger of folding. A call was made to all members to pay their annual dues as soon as possible so the Club could continue. Many did pay, and some even donated extra for the improvements to the Club grounds.

Allan Herbert became the Club's first Life Member when he donated \$50 and started a new category for membership. Herbert also donated money and various items to the value of hundreds of dollars to help the Club along. When Founder Ford left Hawaii to promote Hawaii tourism abroad, Herbert became president.

The Board of Directors announced that it "would not accept outside help, or at least not ask for it. It said that if the Club cannot stand upon its own feet, it is bound to fall sooner or later." However "we encourage those that can do so to take a life membership, or an annual membership card."

A major decision was made in February 1910 that would set the course for the Club for years to come. Outrigger's Board was determined to keep the Club for amateurs, and announced it would follow Amateur Athletic Union guidelines in the determination of amateur status for its members in athletic competitions.

On August 1, 1914, a fire at the neighboring Seaside Hotel spread to the thatched roof of the OCC Dance Pavilion. The floor was saved by the quick work of passersby who grabbed hoses and put out fires.

In the aftermath of the fire, the Board of Directors decided to rebuild the Club, moving it away from the lagoon and closer to the ocean. The dance pavilion floor was taken apart and rebuilt at the new location. The 80-foot by 45-foot dance floor, was the largest of its kind in Hawaii and was built eight feet above the beach facing the sea. Under the pavilion was space for canoe storage. Connected by a bridge was the men's smoking lanai, and behind the pavilion was



The OCC diving stand circa 1910.



One of the Club's original grass shacks.



The first Hau Terrace

a stand for the musicians. An eighty-foot balcony overlooked the sea with easy chairs for watching those green flashes and canoe races. The first dance was held in the new pavilion in August 1915.

Also built were a pergola, kitchen and cement walkways.

Members enjoyed this Clubhouse for the next 24 years until termites stopped holding hands and the buildings were on the verge of condemnation. The Club had no money, and was about to close when Walter J. Macfarlane became president of the Club.

From 1939-1941 Walter Mac and his OCC Board of Directors were busy raising funds, designing the buildings and constructing the new Outrigger Canoe Club on Waikiki Beach to replace the old termiteeaten buildings. The dedication and opening of the new Club coincided with Kamehameha Day in 1941 so the Club sponsored a highly successful program of aquatic activities that included a few canoe races.

A plaque was hung at the Club dedicating the new facilities to Macfarlane for his leadership in keeping the Club alive.

Just five months later, Pearl Harbor was bombed and the U.S. entered World War II. There were blackouts at night, rationing of many items, including liquor, and barbed wire fences constructed in front of the Club forcing swimmers, surfers and canoers out of the water at specific times each day.

With the help of Pan American pilots

who brought troops to Hawaii for R&R, the Club was supplied with the necessities of life, especially liquor and volleyballs, and became a home away from home for service members. The Pan Am pilots became known as the Bourbon League and many of their families are still members today.

The Club thrived for another 23 years until its lease expired in Waikiki. That brought another crisis to the Club: stay in Waikiki and operate out of a hotel, move to another location, or fold.

It took several years of negotiations but the Board of Directors and membership finally voted to move to our current Diamond Head site. Many members resigned over this decision. Members who didn't favor the move but remained members, eventually agreed that our current site was the best decision that could have been made.

At our present site since 1964, we still have an ocean front property in Waikiki, we have access to the ocean for surfing, swimming and canoeing, we have a sandy beach for our families to enjoy, and three volleyball courts. Even better, we have a parking lot.

Through all the years and many crises, the Club never wavered from Ford's original vision to have a place where the sports of Old Hawaii could flourish. Over eleven decades, the thousands of men and women of the Outrigger Canoe Club have created an athletic legacy that is second to none.

We led the revival of surfing, paddleboarding and outrigger canoe racing. We have excelled in the ancient ocean sports and have shared our expertise and enthusiasm with the community at large.

Through the efforts of our watermen and women and their innovations, the popularity of these sports have grown throughout the world. We even pioneered sand volleyball, which is now an Olympic sport.

We have home-grown Olympians, and national and international champions in many sports.

So what would Ford and the other charter members think of us today? We can't help but think they'd be very proud that their vision is still alive and a true legacy born. And I'm sure they would laud the fearless leaders who never gave up the dream club envisioned by Ford and others, even when the going got tough.

We have so much to be proud of.

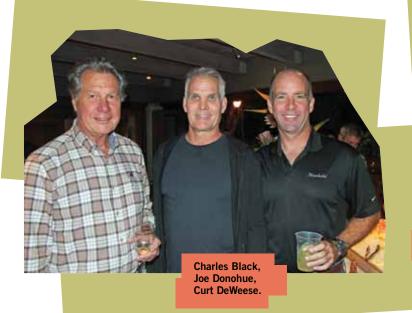
We are the oldest and best Hawaiian ocean sports Club in the world! You can read more about our Hawaiian sports legacy at outriggercanoeclubsports.com.

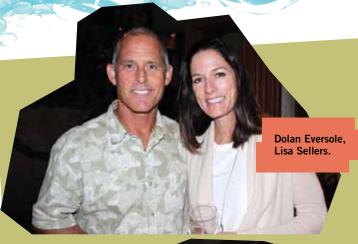
Let this (continue to) be a place where man (and women) may commune with sun and sand and sea, where good fellowship and Aloha prevail, and where the sports of Old Hawaii shall always have a home. Dedication Plaque January 1964.





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State of the Club

By Dustin Sellers, President

For the last two years the Board of Directors has been considering adding a new position to the Club's Executive Staff, that of an Assistant General Manager. Last fall, with our new GM David Robinson settled in, we budgeted for the AGM position and are now in the process of filling this position.

Much the way our Athletic Director role has streamlined and expanded our athletics programs, it is our expectation that this position with help to enhance all aspects of the operations of the Club.

The new position will give our GM more time to focus on the "big picture" of the Club, such as Board related issues, long range planning, vendor contract negotiations, department head development and training, and committee involvement. Equally important, the Food and Beverage Department, Business and Executive Office personnel continue to be direct reports to the General Manager/CEO.

The Role

The Assistant General Manager will serve as the lead Operations Manager for the Club primarily pertaining to the physical plant and athletic member services. This position helps to establish and implement operating standards and policies mainly in Building Maintenance, Beach Services, Athletics, Housekeeping and Security. This person is also your GM-in-training and is a safety net should they be needed to step into that role at some point in the future.

Some of the specific duties will include:

- Oversee the development of standard operating procedures and training manuals.
- Oversee and work with department heads to schedule, supervise and direct facility staff.
- Develop and implement general policies. Approve specific operational policies and programs.
- Conduct daily walk-throughs of the Club facility both back of house and member facing areas.
- Monitor the landscaping contractor, and implement new programs when warranted.
- Oversee the care and maintenance of all physical assets and facilities.
- Coordinate and assist in the development of operating and capital budgets.
- Assist in long range planning for the facility.
- Make recommendations for capital improvements, supplies and equipment working with other directors.
- Oversee Beach and Safety, athletics, fitness and Locker Room management.
- Monitor Club's security program and adjust where needed.
- Oversee parking structure and valet contract.

- Conduct regular walk-throughs of facility to assure that cleanliness, safety and other standards are consistently attained.
- Serve as management liaison on appropriate Club committees.
- Be on the floor for major Club events and holidays, greeting members and assisting where necessary.
- Act as Manager-on-Duty when General Manager is absent.

This role, for a Club of our size and complexity is long overdue and we are confident that with such a vibrant hospitality industry down the street, we will find a very capable AGM to support David and his senior team.

We expect to make a hire before summer. Should you have questions about the role or have candidates you feel worthy of a phone screening, please do not hesitate to contact David or Anthony Hunt who are in charge of the hiring process.



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As the Terrace Turns

By Barbara Del Piano

Five Outrigger members were honored recently by *Pacific Business News* as 2018 Women Who Mean Business. They are **Chenoa Farnsworth, Jovanna Giannasio-Fern, Leela B. Goldstein, Lia Young Hunt** and **Lori McCarney**. The ladies were featured in a recent issue of the magazine. Congrats.

Members are invited to submit social items and photos for this column. Leave your items at the Front Desk or email to occmag@aol.com. Items received by May 25 will appear in the July magazine. Items received after May 25 will appear in August. Photos should be prints or high resolution jpgs. Be sure to include your name and phone number in case additional information is needed.



Bruce and Laurie Sloan spent time at the Kodaiji Temple with cherry blossoms in full bloom.

Diana Wiley and Bryan Brewer were married March 18 at the Salish Lodge, in Snoqualmie, WA. Diana has been a widow for almost 18 years. Her late husband was Charlie Pietsch, an OCC member for 45 years.





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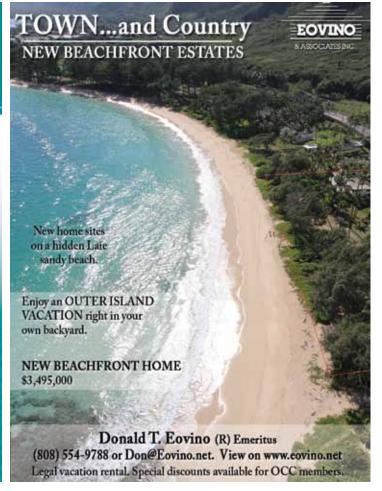






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Military Honor Roll

This year marks the 100th anniversary of World War I, and Outrigger will be part of a statewide commemoration of the event.

Members of the OCC Women's Auxiliary worked for months on a flag listing Club members serving in the armed forces. Wives, mothers, sisters and sweethearts were encouraged to stitch names of the men on a star which was sewn to the flag. Auxiliary member Mrs. J. Atherton Gilman spent each afternoon at the Club distributing them; when it was completed there were 130 stars on the banner.

The banner was prominently displayed in the Clubhouse Lobby for the war's duration.

The original flag is long gone, but the Governor's Centennial Committee is having a Girl Scout troop replicate the banner that hung in the Club lobby 100 years ago, honoring our members who served in WWI. We will be displaying the replica flag later this year in the Lobby.

In 2002, Paul Dolan of the Historical Committee compiled a listing of members who had served in the armed services from World War I to the present. For the centennial observance the Historical Committee would like to update that list to bring it current.

A listing of all our members who have served may be found on the website, outriggercanoeclubsports.com. Look in the Archives section for Military Honor Roll. There are two separate listings for those who served while a member of the Club, and those who served either before or after being a member.

If you have served in the military, please check to see if you are on the list. If you're not, you can print out the questionnaire, from the website or pick it up at the Front Desk so you may be added. Leave it at the Front Desk to the attention of the Historical Committee or email to occmag@aol.com.

If you have questions, please contact Kawika Grant or Marilyn Kali.

'Riggers Book Club

The 'Riggers Book Club meets the first Friday of the month at 10 am in the Duke Room of the Koa Lanai. All members are invited to join the club, free of charge. The leader of the Book Club is Gerry DeBenedetti. Upcoming books to be discussed are:

May 4 - Lillian Howan, *The Charm Buyers*. The author will be present. She is attending the Honolulu Book & Music Festival on May 4 and 5.

June 1 - Joy Schulz, *Hawaiian by Birth: Missionary Children*, *Bicultural Identity and U.S. Colonialism in the Pacific.*

July 6 - Moses Manu, *Keaomelemele*. Resource presenter Kealalokahi Losch, KCC Faculty.





Thirsty Thursdays Presents:

Chef Dan's Cooking Corner

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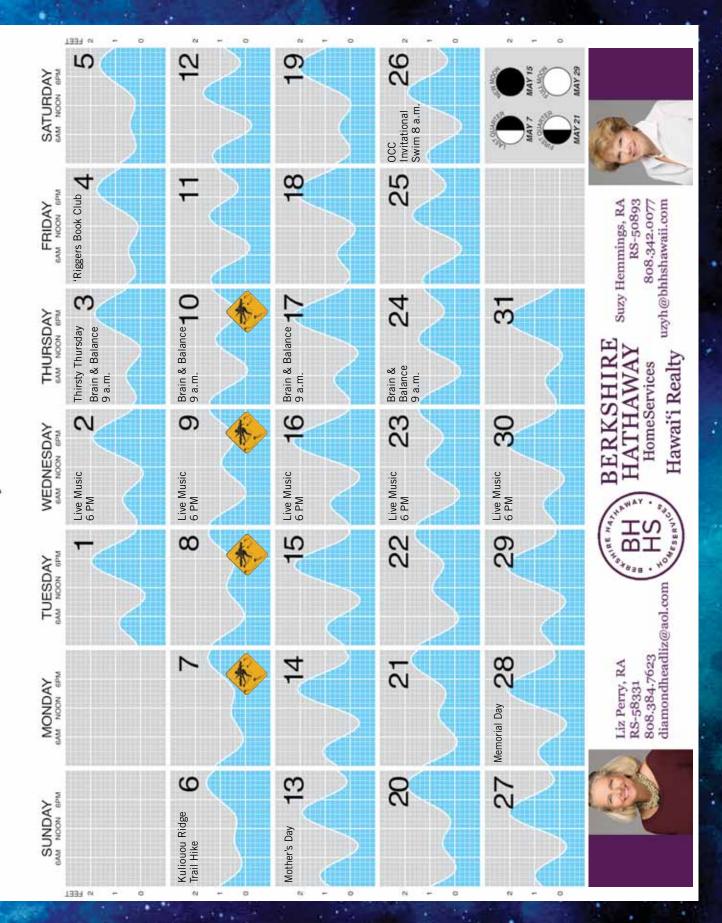
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Reservations at the Front Desk or on the OCC App

OCC Tide Calendar

May 2018



Easter at the Outrigger

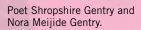
Photos by Nora Meijide Gentry





Enjoying Easter Brunch at the Club on April 1 were Luke, Phil, Gay and Nicole Sevier. Back row: Jack, Adam and Brad Sevier.

Raffaella Eldridge, Wyatt Egbert, Megan Egbert.









Seated: Alice Guild. Standing: Gerri Pedesky, Di Guild, Ariana Hunt, Candes Meijide Gentry and Sheila Watumull.

MEMBERS IT PAYS TO KNOW









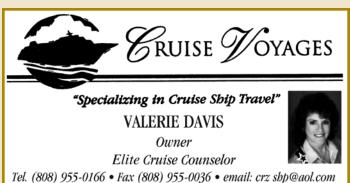












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For the Record

PADDLING

Kanaka Ikaika Race #6 3/4/18 Hawaii Kai to Magic Island Long Course - 11 miles

Patrick Dolan, 1st Overall, SS-1, 1:11:49
Travis Grant, 3rd, SS1, M30-39, 1:15:02
Simeon Ke-Paloma, 2nd, OC1, M19-29, 1:22:37
Christian Bradley, 3rd, OC1, M19-29, 1:22:54
Heath Hemmings, OC1, M40-49, 1:26:26
Victor Agostini, OC1, M40-49, 1:28:47
Aukina Hunt, 1st, SS1, Junior Men, 1:30:08
Cory Nakamura, OC1, M30-39, 1:30:28
Angela Dolan, 2nd, SS1, W 30-39, 1:31:09

Billy Balding, OC1, M50-56, 1:31:10 Amy Woodward, 3rd, SS1, W30-39, 1:31:19 Mary Smolenski, 1st, SS, W 50-56, 1:31:55 Marc Haine, OC1, M57-63, 1:32:22 Keoni Watson, OC1, M40-49, 1:33:38 Twain Newhart, OC1, M57-63, 1:36:34 Neal Hafner, OC1, M30-39, 1:38:14 Anella Borges, OC1, W30-39, 1:39:34 Paula Crabb, OC1, W64-69, 1:42:04 Liat Portner, OC1, W19-29, 1:50:39

Short Course: Kaimana, Kewalo, Magic Island - 6 miles Peter Balding III, 1st, Prone PB, M30-39, :48:09

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EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH Allysa Duldulao

By Stephen Riede

Snack Shop Attendant Allysa Duldulao is the Employee of the Month for February. Allysa started with the Club six years ago in February of 2012. She was also Employee of the Month in September, 2013.

Snack Shop Supervisor Lisa Gose states: "Allysa is a very hard worker, extremely dependable, and shows great initiative. She is always willing to help whenever needed. Her bright smile and warm personality make her popular with both members and staff. Allysa loves to dance, which she often does during slow periods. She works very well with others and is a crucial part of the Snack Shop team."

She and her family emigrated from the Philippines in

Congratulations Allysa and thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the Club.



EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR **Joni Lam**

Locker Room & Laundry Attendant Joni Lam was selected our Employee of the Year for 2017. Joni started with the Club in January 2006.

Locker/Laundry Supervisor Chery Martinez states: "Joni always has a smile on her face and is always willing to help out when needed. She is very dependable and always tries to help out members when they need some-

Joni is married to long time OCC Cook, Mo Lam, who retired from the Club in 2012. In her spare time, Joni likes to travel "anywhere" and also enjoys gardening, especially raising orchids.

Congratulations Joni for over a decade of outstanding service to the OCC!

Past President Anthony Hunt presented the Employee of the Year plaque to Joni Lam at the Aloha Party on March 12.

Who Knew?

Renowned Hawaii composer R. Alex Anderson, who wrote numerous hapa-haole Hawaiian songs, was a long-time member of the Outrigger Canoe Club, joining as a child. In 1980 Anderson wrote a song for the Outrigger Canoe Club. In 1986 the song was recorded by the Teves Trio, who entertained for many years at the Club.

If you've never heard the OCC Song, go to http://www. outriggercanoeclubsports.com/occ-archives/outrigger-song/ to hear the Teves Trio sing it.

You can also hear Alex sing it by listening to his 1981 oral history at http://www.outriggercanoeclubsports.com/occarchives/oral-histories/robert-alexander-anderson-margaretleith-center-anderson/

Ho-e ho-e ho-e Outrigger Bring home the victory!

In Memoriam

Clinton Basler

Deceased: March 6, 2018 Club Member: 28 years

Barney A. Ebsworth

Deceased: April 9, 2018 Club Member: 20 Years

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Board Briefs

Board Briefs is taken from the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors on April 4, 2018.

Membership count was 4,833 as of February 28, 2018.

Athletics: The Board approved a total of 28 OKLK Special Athletic Members, and approved the request to increase the number of non-OKLK SAM's to 38.

The Board approved the 2018 Athletic Subcommittee members:

Club Captain: Dolan Eversole.

Canoe Racing: Tom McTigue, Chair; Paula Crabb, Angie Dolan, Siana Hunt, Bill Johnson, Amy Lawson Woodward, Alice Lunt, Art Mallet, Steve Maurer, Leighton Miyachi, Billy Philpotts.

Fishing & Boating: Brad Thiessen, Chair; Ikaika Harbottle, Bruce Black, Brendan Bradley, John Eveleth, Greg Moss, Patricia Naiyoke, Lynn Sumida.

Fitness Center: Jon Bryan, Chair; Richard Budar, Brad Castillo, Erik Ellgren, Christina Hause, James Ka, KeSean Kekina, George Norcross, Jeff Zimmerman.

Golf: Jarriel Tuinei, Chair; John Conway, Cana Day, Uli Fro-

wein, Harry Kersten, SE Lee, Phil Sevier, Mark Thomas.

OC-1/Kayak: Michael Nakano, Chair; Kimo Austin, Dave Fan, Stew Kawakami, Normand Lezy, Billy Philpotts, Bill Pratt, Evan Rhodes, Zsolt Szadovszki, Cassidy Tepper, Jayson Whitman.

Paddleboard: Peter Balding Jr., Chair; Keely Carey, Kelsey Chuckovich, Pat Dolan, Travis Grant, Amy Lawson Woodward, Kalani Schrader, Keoni Watson.

Running & Hiking: Katy Bourne, Chair; Deb Deshais, Sandra Haine, David Stackhouse.

Softball: Art Mallet, Chair; Britta Bourne, Natasha Haine, Wilson Lau

Surfing: Brendan Bradley, Chair; Kaili Chun, Kisi Haine, Rick Hobson, Eric Lau, Jimmy McMahon, James Stone III.

Swimming: Ben Komer, Chair; Gerry DeBenedetti, Candes Gentry, Todd Iacovelli, Blake Johnson, Maggie Parks, Stefan Reinke, Rachel Ross Bradley, Hina Torres.

Volleyball: Alan Lau, Chair; Peter Balding, Max Clini, Marc Haine, Stew Kawakami, Deke Kilpatrick, Larissa Nordyke, Lia Young.

Treasurer: Discussed the variance in operating net income and that we will still be taking an adjustment to payroll expenses and maintenance expenses during the shutdown, primarily. Will make those adjustments in March. Discussed the Budget process and how the Finance Committee is looking to restructure the process this year. Need to establish a realistic budget.

Bylaws Ad Hoc: Discussion regarding use of Parliamentarian and Robert's Rules of Order at member annual and special meetings. Will be looking further into this and report back to the Board. . . Committee Guidelines have been vetted and close to final draft phase. . . Was suggested that the Finance Committee guidelines include member experience and background. Need to decide on attendance expectation for all committees. Will need consensus. Final drafts will be circulated via email, pending final rewording, getting approval before next Board meeting. . . Working on the finalization of Bylaw amendment, and will need to circulate the draft and schedule a Town Hall meeting, ideally in late summer.

Operations Report: As mentioned, financials after first two months of the year shows positive results compared to prior year, even with eight-day closure January/February. . Will improve on that with capital adjustments to payroll and maintenance expenses, including Koa Canoe repair, garage repair and electrical rewiring project. . . Successful Easter and lucked out with weather. . . Addressing creative operating changes for the summer, as stated in House report. . . Presented an update on the Seawall projects, most specifically the prototype wave deflector, on the wall of the Hau

Terrace. It would be portable, low profile units that will be installed for King Tide episodes and removed and stored afterwards. . . Beach Desk project is coming along and should be complete by the end of April. . . Distributed a history graph of F&B revenue/net, going back 11 years, and discussed the trends and variances therein. . . Addressed a member request regarding reciprocal/guest usage during the holidays. No action was taken, and GM will send a reply letter to the member. . . Management staff participating in weekly supervisory training course, through the month of April.

Building & Grounds: Men's and Women's Locker Room renovation project to transition from LRP to B&G Committee. . . Survey going out to male voting members looking for their choice of locker: metal or phenolic. Hope to break ground in September, and should take two to three months for completion. Will have the Junior Locker Room for the men during this construction as the Men's locker room renovation is more expansive than the Women's locker room project. The Women's is more of a refresh since it was renovated several years ago including installation of phenolic lockers. . . B&G also finalizing plans on the Lobby ceiling project. ARC addressing specifics on materials, color, etc.

Athletics: Conducted a full Athletic Committee meeting, resulting in great idea sharing. Ko Kainalu was successful over Spring Break. Hats off to Shannon and Staff. . . OKLK tryouts to begin April 14. One man results were shared.

House: Staff is looking into creative programming to address additional business expected with the increased number of paddling members this year. . . Member comment card review was addressed, showing significant positive feedback in service and food. Collect 500-700 cards a month.

Finance: Nonmember revenue percentage has improved, falling below 14% in 2017... Discussion regarding our Sand Island storage unit and the lease. Further review is necessary.

Entertainment: Club Luau will be October 20. **Member Relations:** Finalizing RFP for magazine.

Historical: Discussion regarding Koa Lanai Lounge décor and historical displays proposed for the koa wall.

Other Business: Past President Jimmy McMahon submitted a request to address an amnesty program to allow resigned members an opportunity to rejoin the Club. After discussion, no action was taken. Updated the Board on the search process of new Assistant General Manager, and the Ad Hoc members working with Past President Hunt. Sample job description was shared. Plan is to have AGM on board early summer... Discussion on Security Ad Hoc committee, which should come from House Committee, ideally. . . ing Board offsite Saturday, June 16. Will poll Board members as to availability. Looking to bring in club benchmarking executive for presentation. . . Each CD should be able to give an update on their assigned committee. . . Per suggestion by a Past President, a motion to move the date of the Christmas Open House from Christmas Day to a Monday or Tuesday before Christmas was made, discussion ensued. Motion was approved. . . Past President Hunt updated the Board on the Seawall process, and where we were with permitting. Colony Surf is interested in working with us on beach restoration.

ON THE COVER: The Outrigger Canoe Club celebrates the 110th birthday of its founding by Alexander Hume Ford in May, 1908. The Club has had four clubhouses and has grown into the most winning Hawaii ocean sports club in the world. This photo shows the entrance to the Club from Kalakaua Avenue, with the Dance Pavilion in the background. Read more about the early Club on pages 2-3.

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