

MAY 30 1969

Ocean-Racing Catamaran Aikane To Cruise Off-Shore Big Island

The Aikane, the most famed ocean-racing catamaran of all time, set sail May 21 from Redondo Beach, California, for its new home at the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel where the well-known "cat" will be retired from racing and will enter the off-shore cruise business.

Skipped by Matt Kindred and a crew of four, the Aikane is scheduled to arrive approximately June 2 after a 10-12 day trip. The 46-foot catamaran, holder of numerous major yachting records and a legend in its time, will operate out of the Mauna Kea, offer-

ing daily cruises along the scenic, historic Kamehameha coastline.

Operating as the Aikane Corporation, two native sons of Hawaii--Kenneth Murphy, owner of the Aikane and Rudy Choy, designer of the vessel--will undertake the venture and plan for the Aikane to begin its commercial off-shore cruises next month. The Aikane will be skipped by Kindred on its off-shore cruises.

Embarking from Laurence S. Rockefeller's lavish Mauna Kea Beach Hotel on the Big Island, the Aikane will offer daily, one-and-a-half hour

cruises beginning at 10 a.m. including a noon luncheon cruise with box lunches available at the hotel. Priced at \$10 per person, each cruise includes a complimentary cocktail at the Mauna Kea's Terrace Bar followed by a "Back of the House" tour of the hotel after the 2 p.m. afternoon trip.

A two-hour sunset cruise will hoist sail at 5 p.m. with complimentary cocktails and pupus (hors d'oeuvres) served on board and included in the \$20 per person or \$35 per couple cruise price.

The Aikane will take a special all-day cruise to the secluded Kona Village Hotel on Fridays where shipboard passengers will enjoy a luncheon and can explore the historic grounds for a cruise price of \$17.50 per person. Guests of the Kona Village will be invited to take a special one-and-a-half hour cruise sailing from the Kona Village at noon for \$10 a person.

Specifically designed for ocean-racing by Choy, the Aikane, which means "close friend" in Hawaiian, is a legend in racing circles. The famed vessel was the first catamaran to win a major race against the large mono-hulled yachts when it beat the 83-foot sloop Barlovento in the 1957 NOSA Newport-Ensenada International Yacht Race. A few months later, the Aikane, though unofficially entered in the 1957 Trans-Pacific Yacht Race which was closed to catamarans, became the first catamaran to win a Trans-Pacific crossing. The Aikane's wintestabished the catamaran's reputation as one of the finest racing boats anywhere.

Murphy, a kamaaina resident of Honolulu, has 12 years of racing and sailing experience totaling over 30,000 nautical miles in the open ocean including one 10,000-mile round-trip from Los Angeles to Tahiti and return via Hawaii. He is a member of the Waikiki Yacht Club, Outrigger Canoe Club and California Yacht Club.

Also a kamaaina resident of Hawaii, Choy is the world's foremost catamaran designer and a master of ocean racing. A graduate of the University of Hawaii, he is senior design partner in C/S/K/ Catamarans of Newport Beach, California.

Choy has an extensive background of 22 years sailing catamarans and 32 years total sailing experience. He was sailing master of four Trans-Pacific Yacht Race winners. He is a member of the Balboa Yacht Club, SNAME (Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers) and the Outrigger Canoe Club.

is expected to cross the Waikiki finish line at approximately noon.

Originally the race was restricted to koa outrigger canoes but due to the cost of repairs and replacement, caused by rough seas and surf, a special non-koa class has been added, bringing in many entries from the Mainland.

The canoes are manned by six paddlers and three alternates.

The Outrigger Club captured the koa division last year in the record time of five hours, 55 minutes and 15 seconds. The non-koa race went to the Healan Canoe Club which also set a new mark of six hours, three minutes, 28 seconds.

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Surfers attempting Molokai-Oahu mark

By Ron Haworth
Surfing Columnist

Aka Hemmings and Tommy Holmes, two youthful surfboard paddlers, set out for Oahu from Molokai at 5:30 this morning in an attempt to break the record set in the early fifties by Tom Zahn.

Zahn accomplished the trip in 6½ hours to Makapuu and then went on to finish at Waikiki in another three hours.

Hemmings and Holmes were hoping to reach Sandy Beach in under six hours.

Both paddlers are accomplished surfers and paddle for the Outrigger Canoe Club. Sixteen-year-old Hemmings was a member of the senior crew which set a new Molokai record in last year's race.

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JUN 6 1969

Surf Spray



by Ron Haworth

New canoe for Outrigger

The Outrigger Canoe Club will hold dedication ceremonies June 14 and christen its new koa canoe.

The "Paoa," named in honor of the late Duke Kahana-moku, was built by canoe craftsman George Perry. Perry, who is president of the Lanikai Canoe Club, places his dedication to canoeing ahead of club affiliation and builds and repairs canoes for most of Oahu's clubs.

The Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association begins the '69 season the next day with the Kam Day Regatta at Kailua Beach Park.

The sport of canoe racing in Hawaii was non-existent from 1919 until the early '30s when it was revived.

For 20 years it struggled along on the devotion of a few canoe lovers, and it was not until 1950 that the HCRA was formed by men concerned that the sport might disappear altogether.

Before the HCRA, various clubs competed against one another without benefit of a single written rule. Chaos and bitterness was often the result.

Capp pioneered organization

Bill Capp is largely responsible for the existence of HCRA. Capp, in March of 1950, was appointed chairman of the canoe and sailing committee at Outrigger.

"It was apparent," Capp recalls, "that it would be necessary to establish some kind of an association if canoe paddling was to be perpetuated in the Islands."

Capp set about drafting a constitution and by-laws and in May three members from each canoe club met to finalize the formation of the HCRA.

Elected officers were: Sam Fuller, president; Anthony Shim, vice president; Pat Old, treasurer; Rudy Choy, secretary and Sam Poepoe, auditor.

From this initial committee came a harmony of rules. Such things as eligibility of paddlers, race distances, and canoe construction were soon standard.

Weight of canoes was set at 400 pounds, and to this day canoes are weighed by an HCRA official prior to racing.

Perry believes canoe weight should have been set at 450 pounds. He contends the added thickness would eliminate a lot of the damage which can occur in rough seas.

"The 400-pound weight was hastily agreed upon to discriminate against a very light canoe made from cottonwood. It was only 268 pounds."

Today the HCRA season consists of five regattas and the 42-mile Molokai-to-Oahu race. Sandwiched between the final regatta (the State meet) and the Aloha Week Molokai crossing, is a race from Lanikai to Waikiki sponsored by the Lanikai Canoe Club.

Race to honor Duke

This 22-mile race was first run last year and won by Outrigger. This year it falls on Duke's birthday and will be in his honor.

The race will bear Duke's name. A koa canoe and a race in memory of Duke -- a tribute -- but only a beginning."

The second regatta of this season will be held at Pokai Bay, instead of the usual Kaneohe Bay site.

And a new class has been established for paddlers 12 years and under. In this bracket the total weight of the six paddlers doesn't equal the canoe's weight.

But the kids are game and will give their canoes wings. And many of them will go on in later years to test their backs and guts in the grand-daddy of them all--Molokai.

It's possible that not one regatta has gone by without a grievance of some sort lodged against the HCRA by a disgruntled canoe club. Its job is a tough one with few alohas attached.

But Capp, for one, believes the HCRA has done a good job.

"The results are evident--Hawaii still enjoys the royal sport of canoe racing."

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HONOLULU ADVERTISER

JUN 1 1969

Donald Dias Appointed Aloha Week Race Chairman

Donald W. Dias will be chairman of the annual Molokai-Oahu canoe race which will be held Oct. 19 as an Aloha Week feature. He succeeds Paul W. K.

Jones who has directed the event since its inauguration in 1952.

The race starts at Hale-O-Lono Harbor, Molokai, at 7:30 a.m. and the first canoe

is expected to cross the Waikiki finish line at approximately noon.

Originally the race was restricted to koa outrigger canoes but due to the cost of repairs and replacement, caused by rough seas and surf, a special non-koa class has been added, bringing in many entries from the Mainland.

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Paul Jones (left) wishes Donald Dias good luck.

Aloha Week Photo